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**PAGE 8 & 9**

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# City to really open up the books ... online

**Budget data.** Detailed financial information to be posted on city website



**RYAN TUMILTY**  
 ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

Edmontonians will be able to look at the city's books more closely than ever before under a plan approved Tuesday.

City councillors approved a plan to add data on the city's operating budget to the existing open-data catalogue. The city has long posted a detailed budget online, but the new format will allow users to manipulate or reformat the data. The city's open-data catalogue has a host of city-collected information in formats that can be used

## Quoted

**"Being open and transparent is one thing, but opening us up to the political fodder of others is another."**

Coun. Dave Loken

by programmers to create apps or visualizations.

Mayor Don Iveson said it's about freeing up the information the city has and that citizens have paid for.

"It is a new way of doing business for cities, to think about being open and upfront about the information that we have that the public is paid to collect," he said.

He said the city won't know how people will use the data

until it's available, but that is part of the equation.

"Open government is about trusting that our public is going to add value to our decision making if they can see more of the information," he said.

Coun. Dave Loken said he supports the notion of open data, but he is also concerned that the data, without context, will open up the city to political attacks.

The city's chief financial officer Lorna Rosen told councillors she believes more information about how the city spends its money will only help make its case.

"If the public were aware of what we spent our money on they wouldn't object," he said.

The city's current plan would have the budget passed last November in the catalogue later this year.



## OILERS EDGE SENS

Edmonton Oilers' Jeff Petry decks Ottawa Senators' Kyle Turris during first period NHL action in Edmonton on Tuesday. See coverage, 25. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS



RCMP are looking for the driver of a Lincoln MKX who allegedly fired a gun at an SUV. COURTESY RCMP

# Gunfire alleged in road rage incident

A road rage incident gone too far has put RCMP on the hunt for a driver of a white Lincoln MKX who allegedly shot at a vehicle with children inside.

Police say a driver of an SUV was travelling west-bound on the Whitemud

towards Enoch First Nation when he was involved "in a traffic dispute that resulted in a brief verbal altercation."

The man got back into his vehicle and continued to drive past the River Cree Casino when his rear

window exploded. A bullet was found lodged in the rear bench seat after being stopped by the bench's metal frame.

Seven people were in the SUV, including five children aged 5 through 14.

"We are just fortunate

that there was no loss of life here," RCMP Cpl. Colette Zazulak said Tuesday. "This is an attempted murder investigation and we are encouraging the public to come forward if they have any information."

The suspect vehicle is de-

scribed as a white Lincoln MKX, model year between 2011 and 2013. The driver is described as a white male in his 20s, with short light brown-blond hair, and clean-shaven, according to police.

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## Flooding. City aims to prevent insurance increases

The city is working with the insurance industry, hoping to prevent massive insurance increases related to flooding in south Edmonton neighbourhoods.

Severe storms over the city have flooded several neighbourhoods, especially around Mill Woods, in recent years. And while the city is working on long-term solutions, the construction project is years from being complete.

Some homes in the area have flooded multiple times and residents have told city councillors in the past that they are at risk of losing their insurance.

The city's director of risk management, Don Marshall, told councillors on Tuesday the city is working with the insurance industry.

"If they are aware of the work that we are now doing, they might make insurance more available and more affordable to citizens that are in those areas that are hardest hit," he said.

Marshall said they are also trying to make sure drainage upgrades are happening where they are most needed.

"If we can work with the insurance industry to help identify the areas that most need the remediation, I think that is the most important thing," he said.

Coun. Mike Nickel said the city has to make this issue a top priority.

"People are living in fear of losing their homes," he said. "This is (not just) a Mill Woods issue, it is just a matter of time before it is everybody's issue."

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

### Highway 16A

## Two killed in fatal car accident

Two young people were killed Monday night in an accident just west of Edmonton.

Police were called out shortly after 11 p.m. to the crash on Highway 16A, just east of Highway 60.

A semi-truck travelling

westbound slowed to turn off the highway and was rear-ended by a Pontiac Sunfire, according to police.

The driver of the Sunfire, a 20-year-old man from Edmonton, and his passenger, a 19-year-old woman from Spruce Grove, were declared dead on scene. Their names are not being released at the request of their family.

The semi-truck driver was uninjured. **METRO**

### Golden goalie

## Golden Bears netminder dressed for Oilers game

The Edmonton Oilers dressed University of Alberta Golden Bears netminder Kurtis Mucha as the backup goaltender for the game against the Ottawa Senators Tuesday night.

This is the second time the U of A goalie played for an NHL team, after being asked by the Boston Bruins to fill in for a practice in Edmonton earlier this season.

The Sherwood Park native was named a Canada West Second Team All-Star Tuesday after he recorded a 14-1-1 record, as well as the second-best goals against average (1.87) in the country. **METRO**

# Redford to curtail use of government planes

**\$3,100 tab.** Premier questioned for travel expenses, which she says she'll pay back

Alberta Premier Alison Redford revealed Tuesday that she spent taxpayers' money to fly her daughter's friends around on government aircraft, but says she will now pay back the \$3,100 tab.

Redford also announced she is grounding the government aircraft fleet from flying out of province until the auditor general completes a review on whether taxpayers are getting value for their money.

Redford told a news conference that in the past year and a half she invited friends on the government plane four times to provide company for her daughter, Sarah.

A year ago, said Redford, she and Sarah also took a government plane to Vancouver to attend an uncle's funeral, although she said she had other meetings, including one

### Being a parent

"I'm the premier of Alberta, but I'm also the mother to a daughter who I love to spend time with. I think many mothers can relate to that, and I don't always get to do that."

Alberta Premier Alison Redford

with India's consul general. The cost of that trip is also part of the \$3,100.

"On a few occasions when I know that my schedule will be demanding, I've encouraged Sarah to bring along a friend," said Redford.

Redford, who became emotional at times, said it was about trying to balance the demands of parenthood with premiership.

Her announcement came after she faced renewed sharp questions over her travel spending from all three opposition parties during the first question period of the spring sitting. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Redford said Tuesday that she spent taxpayers' money to fly her daughter's friends around on government aircraft, but says she will now pay back the \$3,100 tab. DEAN BENNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 NEWS

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## Nurse, we're losing too much stuffing! Muppets help teach Surgery 101

Muppets aren't what patients typically expect when they head in for surgery, but one University of Alberta professor uses the wacky creatures as a teaching tool.

Dr. Jonathan White, co-founder of the medical podcast Surgery 101, is taking his popular brand of teaching from radio to TV with new videos that serve as a brief introduction to surgical topics for medicine students.

After launching the podcast in 2008, White recently partnered with a group of digital-media students at NAIT to launch videos.

"That's where the Muppet idea came from," White explained. "The idea being to combine something interesting from the TV or the movies with surgery."

White said students responded to the videos because they are short, concise and



The cast of Surgery 101, Muppets included. CONTRIBUTED

explain exactly what needs to happen for a specific surgery.

"Sometimes when you look at medical education on the Internet, it can be very dull and boring. Some guy in a white coat droning on about something you don't understand," he said.

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

### Residential schools

#### Final truth and reconciliation event coming up

Edmontonians are being urged to attend the final event for the truth and reconciliation commission later this month.

Commissioner Chief Wilton Littlechild said the residential schools are part of the country's history and everyone should hear about the experience.

"Everyone in my view was impacted by residential schools. If you didn't know about it, it is because you weren't taught about it in schools," he said. METRO

### Ruled homicides

#### Autopsies done on stabbing victims

After completing autopsies on the two victims from Friday's west-end stabbing, the Edmonton medical examiner has ruled both deaths homicides.

Fitzroy Harris, 50, died from multiple stab wounds, while Thierno Bah, 41, died from a single stab to the chest.

Jayne Pasioka, 29, allegedly stabbed both men at their workplace just after 2 p.m. Friday, along with injuring four others.

Pasioka is scheduled to appear in court May 5.

METRO



Dave Mowat, co-chair of the Light The Bridge committee, introduces some of the donors at the fundraising announcement Tuesday. STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

# Edmontonians light the way for bridge project

**High Level Bridge.** Project reaches its \$2.5-million fundraising goal



STEPHANIE DUBOIS  
stephanie.dubois@metronews.ca

For local teacher Krista Hendrickson, purchasing a bulb as part of the "Light the Bridge" project was an affordable way for her class

to remember her when she changed schools.

Hendrickson was one of more than 10,000 people and 300 businesses that purchased the \$25 light bulbs, bringing the project to its \$2.5-million goal needed to light up the historic High Level Bridge this Canada Day.

"The people of the City of Edmonton and at EPCOR just kept finding ways to get this done," said Dave Mowat, co-chair of the Light The Bridge committee, at an announcement Tuesday.

### Fixtures

## 1,120

1,120 luminaires containing almost 60,000 LEDs will be on the bridge.

The city — although it oversaw the project — did not provide any funds toward the campaign.

DeDee Morie, who was the 10,000th person to purchase a light bulb, encouraged people in the city to show their civic

pride in this project.

"If you're an Edmontonian, you should have a light on this bridge," she said Tuesday.

EPCOR workers will soon start to put the 60,000 LEDs on the bridge to be ready for the summer. The company put \$250,000 toward design and installation for the project.

The site to purchase light bulbs will stay live until March 14, with the extra dollars used for bulb replacement and maintenance.

# Mom, Pop & Tots fair

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Toopy and Binoo

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Carey Luxford, property manager for the Wee Book Inn and son of former owner Darwin Luxford, holds up the Jasper Avenue bookstore's newest addition, Jayda. STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

## Turning the page

**New space.** Wee Book Inn opens new Jasper Avenue location



STEPHANIE DUBOIS  
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Books, DVDs and a cat have returned to Jasper Avenue as of Tuesday morning, to many local bookworms' delight.

After being closed for four months, the Wee Book Inn held a soft opening for their new location, a few steps from their previous Jasper Avenue space.

Esthetics is the biggest change to the store, with staff opting for a more natural

**Back in business**

40

The Wee Book Inn has been operating in the city for more than 40 years.

wood theme.

"I think this location has a much better feel. It has that 'cozy bookstore' thing going on," said Carey Luxford, property manager and son of former owner Darwin Luxford, who recently passed away.

The retail space is about the same size as their previous location, with staff deciding to move down the street after their lease was up. Renovations are planned for the current

space's façade this summer to better accommodate their customers, who started to flow in Tuesday.

"Mostly people are just happy that we're open again," said Luxford.

The used bookstore — which is also notorious for its furry friends — added a new cat to their downtown location Tuesday, for which the store will be hosting a naming contest.

Keeping with the former Wee Book Inn owner's cat-naming traditions, the store will provide a list of former Montreal Canadiens hockey players for customers to choose from to rename their cat Jayda.

The Wee Book Inn is now open at 10336 Jasper Ave.

## Where there's a Will ... Shakespeare festival working on a new home

The Ides of March will be even more ominous than usual for the city's Shakespeare festival as they face a crucial decision on where the curtains will open this year.

After a 25-year run at the Heritage Amphitheatre in Hawrelak Park, the Freewill Shakespeare Festival will need a different home this summer.

Crews were installing a replacement canopy at the amphitheatre in January when a windstorm ripped it. A new replacement has been ordered, but it won't be installed in time.

Cadence Konopaki, the fes-

tival's managing director, said they're looking at four options, two of them outside and two of them inside.

"Every day I'm on the phone and email looking at all four options and moving them all forward at all times," she said.

Konopaki said they want to stay outside, but they will have to make a decision firmly by March 15, so contracts can be extended, sets built and all the details arranged.

"Our preference is to stay outdoors if at all possible; obviously that poses a number of challenges," she said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



The amphitheatre is currently without a roof, after it was torn during a windstorm in January.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

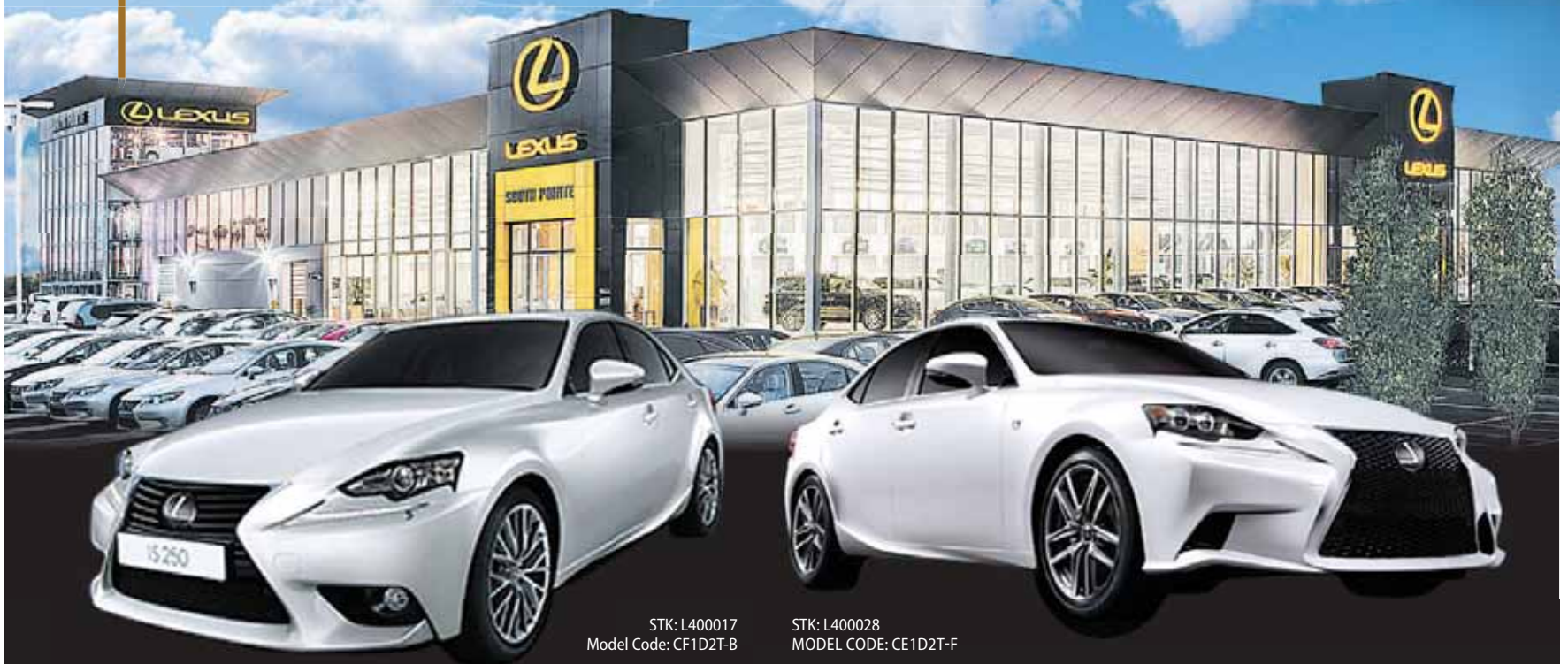


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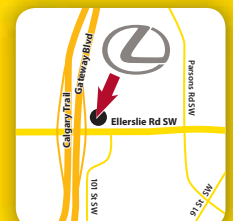
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# Observer mission sent to Crimea

Acting at Ukraine's request, the U.S. and 14 other nations formed a military observer mission Tuesday intended to monitor Crimea, and a U.S. official said the team planned to leave within 24 hours.

Daniel Baer, the chief U.S. delegate to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, said each country was contributing two individuals. But with more OSCE member nations expected

to join, he said the mission could grow beyond its present strength of 30 people.

The 57-nation OSCE works on consensus, so most monitoring missions would have to be approved by all nations, including OSCE member Russia. But a provision of its regulations allows member countries to ask others to send unarmed military monitors in case of emergencies, and Baer said that Ukraine made

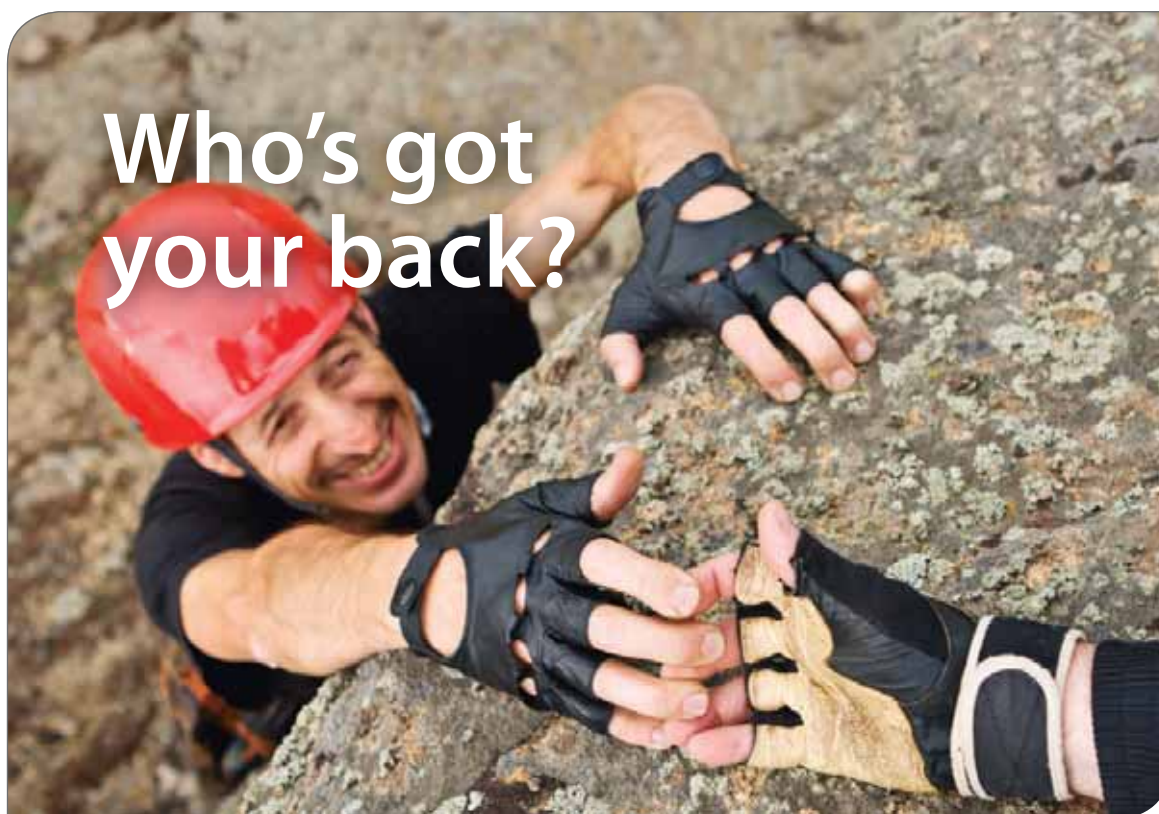
use of that rule.

OSCE officials responsible for minority rights, freedom of the media and representing the head of the organization are already in Ukraine, and Baer said they were en route to the Crimea region on Tuesday night. A senior OSCE human rights official planned to join them Wednesday, he said.

But most of those officials are permanent appointees who regularly travel to OSCE countries. The military observation mission was being drawn up specifically for Ukraine. Baer said its week-long mandate could be extended on Ukraine's request. It also is alone in focusing precisely on the greatest immediate danger — the potential of military conflict between Russian and outgunned Ukrainian forces.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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# Tensions down by

**Tough talk.** Russian president takes jabs at the West, insists he has no intention of annexing Crimea or fighting 'the Ukrainian people'

Vladimir Putin talked tough but cooled tensions in the Ukraine crisis in his first comments since its president fled, saying Russia has no intention "to fight the Ukrainian people" but reserved the right to use force. As the Russian president held court Tuesday in his personal residence, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met with Kyiv's fledgling government and Moscow agreed to sit down

with NATO.

Although nerves remained on edge in Crimea, with Russian troops firing warning shots to ward off Ukrainian soldiers, global markets catapulted higher on tentative signals that the Kremlin was not seeking to escalate the conflict. Kerry brought a \$1-billion aid package to a Ukraine fighting to fend off bankruptcy.

Putin delivered a characteristic performance filled with earthy language, macho swagger and sarcastic jibes, accusing the West of promoting an "unconstitutional coup" in Ukraine. At one point he compared the U.S. role in Ukraine to an experiment with "lab rats."

But the overall message appeared to be one of de-escalation. "It seems to me (Ukraine)

## Quoted

"We hope that Russia will understand its responsibility in destabilizing the security situation in Europe, that Russia will realize that Ukraine is an independent state and that Russian troops will leave the territory of Ukraine." Ukraine Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk





IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Manpower

# 300

Col. Yuri Mamchur, pictured here, led around 300 unarmed Ukrainian officers to the base outside Sevastopol, Ukraine, in a peaceful attempt to retake their airfield. Russian soldiers drove the troops back by firing warning shots into the air.

### Concern

**"We are worried. But we will not give up our base."**

Ukrainian Capt. Nikolai Syomko, an air force radio electrician patrolling the back of the compound. He said the soldiers felt they were being held hostage, caught between Russia and Ukraine.

### Standoffs

Russia's seizure of Crimea has not gone as smoothly as Moscow may have expected. Ukraine soldiers have refused to disarm, resulting in standoffs between men surprised to find themselves on opposing sides.



The Ukrainian flag flies on Parliament Hill on Tuesday.

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Joint military operations with Russia scrapped, Harper says

Canada has suspended all joint military activities with Russia, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Tuesday as Vladimir Putin lashed out at threats of sanctions and accused the West of sowing divisions within Ukraine.

Canada will no longer take part in an anti-terrorism drill involving Canadian and Russian air forces and has pulled

out of scheduled meetings, Harper said in a statement.

The prime minister also threatened to further sever the already frayed ties between the two countries.

"We continue to view the situation in Ukraine with the gravest concern and will continue to review our relations with President Putin's government accordingly," the state-

ment said.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird — who met Tuesday with Ukraine's ambassador to Canada — scoffed at Putin's justification for sending troops into Ukraine.

"These Soviet-style tactics are dangerous and tremendously destabilizing to the whole region," Baird said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# ratcheted Putin

is gradually stabilizing," Putin said. "We have no enemies in Ukraine. Ukraine is a friendly state." He tempered those comments by warning that Russia was willing to use "all means at our disposal" to protect ethnic Russians in the country.

Significantly, Russia agreed to a NATO request to hold a special meeting to discuss Ukraine on Wednesday in Brussels, opening up a possible diplomatic channel in a conflict that still holds monumental hazards and uncertainties.

In his meeting with reporters on Tuesday, Putin said Russia had no intention of annexing Crimea, and hammered away at his message that the West was to blame for Ukraine's turmoil, saying its actions were driving Ukraine into anarchy.

Russia's Foreign Ministry derided U.S. threats of punitive measures as a "failure to enforce its will and its vision of the 'right' and 'wrong' side of history" — a swipe at President Barack Obama's statement Monday that Russia was "on the wrong side of history."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Russian President Vladimir Putin listens to journalists' questions at the presidential residence outside Moscow on Tuesday.

ALEXEI NIKOLSKY/RIA NOVOSTI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# Witness breaks down at Oscar Pistorius trial in South Africa

## Murder trial.

Neighbour testified she heard a man and woman shouting, then the sound of four gunshots

For two days, the witness in the murder trial of Oscar Pistorius kept her composure.

Then, just as her testimony was about to finish, she broke down in tears at what she said was the memory of the screams she heard on the night that the double-amputee athlete fatally shot his girlfriend in his South African home.

Michelle Burger, a neighbour of Pistorius who took the stand on the second day of a trial watched around the world, remained calm through intense questioning



Oscar Pistorius, centre, is escorted out of the high court on the second day of his trial in Pretoria, South Africa on Monday. THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

by the chief defence lawyer. In a final exchange with the lead prosecutor on Tuesday, however, emotion washed

over her as she recalled what she described as the terrified screams of a woman early on Valentine's Day last year.

"When I'm in the shower, I relive her shouts," Burger said. Burger, a university lecturer, lives 177 metres from

Pistorius's house, where his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, died in what he calls an accident. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Court order

## Media warned by the judge

Tuesday's proceedings were interrupted when Judge Thokozile Masipa ordered an investigation into allegations that a South African television channel was broadcasting a photograph of the witness during her testimony — against a court order guaranteeing privacy to witnesses who request it.

"I am warning the media," the judge said, "if you do not behave, you are not going to be treated with soft gloves by this court."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Red wine may fight lung cancer: Study

A recent study by Niagara region scientists suggests moderate amounts of red wine might be useful in fighting lung cancer, but it's far too early for physicians to start prescribing Pinot Noir to patients.

The study was conducted

in cell cultures, and justifies the value of further study on lab mice, Evangelia Tsiani of Brock University in St. Catharines, Ont., said. "This is only a study in cells," said Tsiani, one of three Brock researchers involved. "We can't recommend

anything for humans at this point."

The study found that moderate amounts of red wine inhibit the spread of lung-cancer cells. "Wine may have considerable anti-tumour and chemoprevention properties

in lung cancer."

The report supports a 1999 study that found that a high consumption of beer and spirits can push up the risk of lung cancer, while wine can help a patient.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Columbus, Ohio

## Child tossed out of school over pretend gun play

A 10-year-old U.S. boy was suspended for three days from school for pretending his finger was a gun and pointing it at another stu-

dent's head, the principal said. The boy's father says it's the adults who are acting childish for suspending the boy from his school in Columbus, Ohio, last week.

A school spokesman said the principal has warned students about pretend gun play numerous times. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Ford says his appearance on Kimmel show a success



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has his forehead wiped by host Jimmy Kimmel on the late night talk show Jimmy Kimmel Live on Monday night in Los Angeles. ANDY HOLMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## 'Bananas for Rob.'

Ford said he received support after the show and denied that Kimmel had made a fool out of him

Mayor Rob Ford rejected suggestions on Tuesday that late-night TV comedian Jimmy Kimmel had humiliated him, and denied needing help for substance abuse.

Speaking at city hall after his trip to Los Angeles, an upbeat Ford sloughed off Kimmel's reruns of several embarrassing videos and his suggestion the mayor find someone to talk to about his addictions.

"I don't have any personal issues," Ford said.

"We've gone down that road a number of times."

For much of his 15-minute appearance on

Jimmy Kimmel Live late Monday, the mayor looked uncomfortable as the comedian razed him over a series of incidents that have garnered Ford worldwide attention.

"Our first guest tonight has tripped, bumped, danced, argued and smoked his way into our national consciousness," Kimmel said by way of introduction.

Ford said he had received a "lot of support" following his appearance and denied that Kimmel had made a fool out of him.

"I knew I was going into a lion's den but I held my own," the mayor said.

Kimmel drew laughs from the studio audience by playing several videos that have gone viral, including ones from a meeting in which Ford mimes a drunk driver, dances in council chambers and almost knocks down a fellow councillor.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# N.S. Bar society told to tolerate B.C. Christian school's anti-gay rules

Excluding law school graduates from working in Nova Scotia because they attended a university that prohibits same-sex intimacy would be discriminatory, the university's president told the province's bar society Tuesday.

Bob Kuhn, president of Trinity Western University, told the Nova Scotia Bar-risters' Society in Halifax it would be unfair if it did not recognize law school degrees from his school because of its community covenant that requires students, faculty and staff to respect Christian values.

"That's an audacious example of prejudice," Kuhn told the panel in his two-hour submission.

The faith-based university in Langley, B.C., wants to open a law school in 2016, and a society panel is holding hearings to determine whether it should allow its graduates to article, and potentially practice, in Nova

Scotia.

The university, which bills itself as the largest, independent Christian liberal arts institution in Canada, asks its 3,600 students to sign a community covenant. Among its core values, the covenant states that sexual intimacy be "reserved for marriage between one man and one woman."

Kuhn began his remarks by saying he is a practising Christian and has been a lawyer for more than three decades. The Trinity Western alumnus encouraged the panel to proceed "as lawyers, and not as personal representatives of any ideological viewpoints."

The school's policy prohibiting same-sex intimacy has sparked controversy, but Kuhn said he finds any suggestion that religious beliefs would prevent students from acting professionally and ethically in their duties as lawyers offensive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Kentucky set to appeal gay-marriage case

The governor of Kentucky said Tuesday the state will hire outside attorneys to appeal a judge's decision granting legal recognition to same-sex couples married in other states and countries after the attorney general announced that he would not pursue the case further.

The split legal decisions from two Democrats come four days after a federal judge gave the socially conservative southern state 21 days to implement a ruling overturning a voter-imposed ban on recognizing same-sex unions.

The disagreement comes against the backdrop of

similar rulings or actions in several other states where same-sex couples have long fought for the right to marry. Gay-marriage advocates have enjoyed a stunning series of legal victories as judges have overturned voter-approved bans in Texas, Oklahoma, Utah and Virginia.

At least 17 states, mostly in the Northeast and Washington, D.C., allow same-sex marriage. Others may soon follow depending on how federal appeals courts, and eventually the U.S. Supreme Court, rule on state bans that have been overturned.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Michigan

### It's OK if you are annoying

It's soon expected to be OK to be wilfully annoying in Grand Rapids.

The Grand Rapids Press reports that the city commission is nixing a 38-year-old section of city code that states "no person shall wilfully annoy another

person."

City attorney Catherine Mish recommended repealing the language, saying the wording is vague and unenforceable.

Last year, rules that got a look included one prohibiting people from riding horses on a sidewalk and another allowing jail time for failing to return a library book.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Berlin Police

### German court talks breast implants

A German court has ruled that a prospective Berlin police recruit's breast implants cannot legally be used as grounds to keep her off the force.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## So how do things go viral, anyway?



SHANE GIBSON  
Metro in Winnipeg

On the surface, pictures of cats in hats, grown men pretending to be Star Wars characters and a link that unexpectedly opens a video by a one-hit wonder from the '80s all seem like just good ways to have a chuckle while frittering away time at work. But in reality, Internet memes have become a serious business.

Sites like cheezburger.com — credited with bringing into the mainstream the whole cute-cat-picture thing you'll know from your Facebook feed — are worth big money. But that wouldn't be possible if they were run by a couple of bored office workers looking at pictures of cats; a site can only be worth millions if its content is seen by millions. In other, more au courant words, it has to go viral.

But, we wondered, at what point can it be said that something has gone viral? And how exactly does that even happen?

### Generating buzz

**"One of the funny things about it is if you're intentionally trying to start a meme you have to look like you're not intentionally trying to start it."**

Social-media expert Tim Hwang

on the subject, organized ROFLCon, the first Internet-culture convention, which debuted in 2008.

It's not an exact science, the 27-year-old self-described social-media expert told Metro, but there are a few things to keep in mind if you want your picture of little Fluffy to explode online.

"One of the funny things about it is if you're intentionally trying to start a meme you have to look like you're not intentionally trying to start it," he said.

Hwang believes the culture's most recognized

memes share two properties. The first is simplicity. "For Grumpy Cat, for example, there was one funny image that people could Photoshop.... They've been successful because it's really easy for people to contribute." The second is malleability, which allows audiences to customize and then reshare the images.

"Memes need to provide a way for you to participate online to be successful," Hwang said.

"The really interesting thing about memes is that, certainly in the last few years, the world for them has gotten a lot more commercialized. Which is both good and bad.... I think it's been a trade-off. It's really great that a lot more people are connected to the culture of the web, but in some ways the Internet has lost some of its original community feel."

Hwang said that to truly go viral most successful memes and image macros need time online to pick up a dedicated following, and then need the help of mainstream media to really explode. Metro, being part of the mainstream media, decided not to press our built-in advantage on Step 2, the better to understand Step 1 from the point of view of a normal Internet user.



# Look out, Lil Bub — it's Stash!

**Metro attempts to make this cat go viral**



## Internet cat-lebrities

### Lil Bub

Known for her permanent kitten appearance, Lil Bub is a dwarf cat with a lolling tongue and a big heart. She's spawned a merchandise empire, and boasts an impressive array of social media followers. She even has her own talk show.

#### By the numbers:

Born: June 21, 2011  
Facebook fans: 645,000  
Twitter followers: 34,500  
Instagram: 358,000  
YouTube subscribers: 105,000



### Nala Cat

Quite possibly the only cat with over one million Instagram followers, Nala is a Siamese-Tabby mix known for her blue eyes and love of bow ties.

#### By the numbers:

Estimated age: 3  
Facebook fans: 110,627  
Instagram: 1,100,000





Online

For a video and  
photos of Stash  
and more, go to  
metronews.ca



## Meet Stash the Moustache Cat ...

Cute, cuddly and the main character in our quest for worldwide fame, this cat possesses a unique look. Stash came to her owner, Metro Winnipeg managing editor Elisha Dacey, in a special way: Stash and his sister Mya were found abandoned in a box and taken to a local pet shelter, which already had an abundance of kittens and was hoping for some press coverage to spur adoptions.

Reporter Shane Gibson took a photo of Stash, and it was love at first black-hair-fluff-under-nose sight.

Dacey wasted no time in adopting Stash, along with his sister, Mya. We all know the Internet runs on cats. Stash, with his ridiculous moustache, proved the purr-fect protagonist in our quest to answer some culturally pertinent questions: How easy is it to make a cat popular online? How popular would this particular cat have to get before we could fairly call him a viral sensation, like Lil Bub? Check back tomorrow — our answer may surprise you. **Bernice Pontanilla/Metro in Winnipeg**

# The virality checklist



Tim Hwang said that deciding whether something has gone viral is fundamentally subjective and that it's impossible to set purely numerical targets. But for the purposes of our experiment, he suggested some broad categories against which to evaluate our success.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO IN WINNIPEG

**1 How many Instagram followers can we accumulate?**



**2 How many images can we collect from followers? (That is, how many times did someone use our 'template' to create a new meme?)**



**3 How much action on Reddit, the self-proclaimed front page of the Internet, can we generate?**



**4 How much traffic can we drive to Stash's website, stashthemoustachecat.com?**



**5 How many views of Stash's Imgur pictures can we achieve?**



## Maru

One of the first cats to garner online fame, Maru is a Scottish fold from Japan whose fascination with boxes has been delighting YouTube users for years.

**By the numbers:**

Born: May 24, 2007  
YouTube subscribers:  
428,000



## From cats to coups in the 'Global Village'

Canadian prophet

**"The new electronic interdependence recreates the world in the image of a global village."**

Canadian communication theorist and intellectual Marshall McLuhan (1911-1980)

It was University of Manitoba graduate and University of Toronto professor Marshall McLuhan who coined the term the "Global Village" back in the early 1960s.

Though the Internet arrived years after McLuhan's death, he foresaw that technological advances would bring about a world that would once again be reduced to a village, albeit a very large one.

McLuhan's vision, one can easily argue, has come true: Trends and news now travel at the speed of a click.

And while it occurs for such silly things as music vid-

eos — think Psy's Gangnam Style, which has 1.9 billion views and counting — it has also proved useful for serious events such as the recent crisis in Ukraine.

**BERNICE PONTANILLA/  
METRO IN WINNIPEG**



# Dear America, Please approve the Keystone pipeline

## Sincerely, Canada.

Government sends the U.S. a letter asking that the controversial project get the OK

The Canadian government is expressing a desire to work with the United States on reducing oil and gas pollution in a letter to the Obama administration that calls for approval of the Keystone XL pipeline.

The letter argues the merits of the pipeline on environmental, economic and energy-security grounds — and it suggests a willingness, without offering specifics, to take additional steps to curb greenhouse-gas emissions.

**From: Canada's ambassador**

**"Our energy and environment officials are currently assessing common energy issues, including potential oil and gas issues, which we could usefully address together."**

Note to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, dated Feb. 28 and released Tuesday

The three-page note from Canada's ambassador to Washington, Gary Doer, says the two countries have already worked together on different climate initiatives, including vehicle-emissions standards, and they can do more.

"Our energy and environment officials are currently

assessing common energy issues, including potential oil and gas issues, which we could usefully address together," said the note to Secretary of State John Kerry, dated Feb. 28 and released Tuesday.

Kerry is leading a regulatory review of TransCanada Corp.'s pipeline proposal and is accepting public comments during a 90-day national-interest determination phase, including the letter from the Canadian government.

Just last month, President Barack Obama revealed that he and Prime Minister Stephen Harper talked at a North American leaders' summit about new initiatives to curb greenhouse-gas emissions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Fiscal plan? Psssh! Have you heard about my recess plans?

U.S. President Barack Obama sits with Marcus Wesby and other preschool students during his visit to Powell Elementary School in the Petworth neighbourhood of Washington on Tuesday. Obama visited the school to talk about his fiscal 2015 federal budget proposal, which was released Tuesday. The blueprint for fiscal 2015, which begins Oct. 1, includes new spending for preschool education and job training, expanded tax credits for 13.5 million low-income workers without children and more than \$1 trillion US in higher taxes over the next decade, mostly for the wealthiest Americans and corporations. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Poll finds

### Average RRSP contribution dips

Two-thirds of Canadians polled would like to have put more money into their RRSPs for the 2013 tax year, according to a new survey that found average contributions were down slightly.

The Bank of Montreal's survey, conducted last week, said Canadians were contributing an average of \$3,518 to their RRSPs, down \$26 from an average of \$3,544 for the 2012 tax year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Alberta to Wisconsin

### Enbridge shelling out \$7B to replace Canada-US pipeline

Energy shipper Enbridge is spending \$7-billion US to overhaul a 46-year-old oil pipeline between Alberta and Wisconsin — a project it says won't have to go through the same U.S. federal process that has bogged down a rival's Keystone XL proposal.

In the largest project in its history, Calgary-based Enbridge Inc. and its U.S. affiliate will be replacing Line 3 using improved steel and coating. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Another big purchase?

### Facebook may buy solar drone company for \$60M

Facebook was in talks to buy Titan Aerospace to step up its efforts to provide Internet access to remote parts of the world, according to reports in the technology blog TechCrunch and financial news outlet CNBC Tuesday. Both sites cited anonymous sources who were familiar with the deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Market Minute

	<b>DOLLAR</b> 90.09¢ (-0.13¢)
	<b>TSX</b> 14,289.86 (+77.12)
	<b>OIL</b> \$103.33 US (-\$1.59)
	<b>GOLD</b> \$1,337.90 (-\$12.40)

Natural gas: \$4.64 US (+\$0.14)  
Dow Jones: 16,395.88 (+227.85)



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For more information about this go to our website and download the Alberta College of Social Workers' Social Policy Framework, a blueprint for a fair and just Alberta.

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The Alberta College of Social Workers regulates social work practice in Alberta. Its primary focus is to serve and protect the public interest by promoting skilled and ethical social work.

## Partners. Nova Scotia, United Kingdom unite to study tidal energy

Nova Scotia and the United Kingdom have agreed to work together on research aimed at generating electricity from high tides like those in the Bay of Fundy.

Energy Minister Andrew Younger and Corin Robertson, the acting British deputy high commissioner to Canada, announced a memorandum of understanding today in Halifax.

Under the agreement, the Offshore Energy Research Association of Nova

Scotia and the United Kingdom's Technology Strategy Board will each contribute \$250,000 towards research.

Younger says the agreement will increase the province's research capacity and create business opportunities in Nova Scotia and the U.K.

The agreement will also result in joint proposals being issued for research projects in both Canada and the U.K.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A tidal-power turbine, built for Nova Scotia Power in an effort to harness the Bay of Fundy's mighty tides, is towed in the Bedford Basin in Halifax on Oct. 26, 2009. The turbine quit working shortly after it was deployed. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# THERE'S A DIRE NEED FOR ... CLOWNS?

There's a worldwide shortage of clowns.

I'm not clowning around. I'm serious. According to an "exclusive" story in the New York Daily News, the membership of the World Clown Association has declined by 1,000 in the past decade, from 3,500 to 2,500.

This has implications for the future of clowning:

Instead of "Send in the clowns," we'll have to change the lyrics to "Send in a clown" or "Is there a clown around?"

At the point in the circus where all the clowns pile out of the VW Beetle, we'll have to add a few acrobats and lion tamers to beef up the numbers. Maybe the plate spinner and the knife thrower.

Desperate times. It's enough to wipe the smile off any clown's face, but of course you can't do that because it's painted on.



**JUST SAYIN'**  
**Paul Sullivan**  
metronews.ca

Various reasons are offered for the decline but the main one is attrition. The old clowns are dying off, and there aren't enough young ones ready to take over. Young people who think they're funny go into stand-up comedy, where you don't need a red nose, just a potty mouth.

But I think the real culprit is Stephen King, who wrote about a creepy clown called Pennywise in *It*, the scariest novel ever written, back in 1986. Pennywise offered kids balloons and then ate them (the kids, not the balloons).

Clowns have never been the same since. Instead of lovable old Bozo, we have Krusty of the Simpsons, the disreputable echo of

Pennywise.

Of course, there was the notorious real-life creepy clown John Wayne Gacy — the Chicago serial killer who was re-

sponsible for at least 33 deaths throughout the '70s of young men and boys. When he wasn't murdering people and burying them under his porch, he entertained children as Pogo the Clown.

After Pogo, Pennywise and Krusty, no one in their right mind would want to be a clown.

It's too bad, really. A clown can happy up a birthday party, but these days Princess doesn't want some dumb old clown; she wants Justin Bieber — and the way he's going, he'll be doing birthday parties by July.

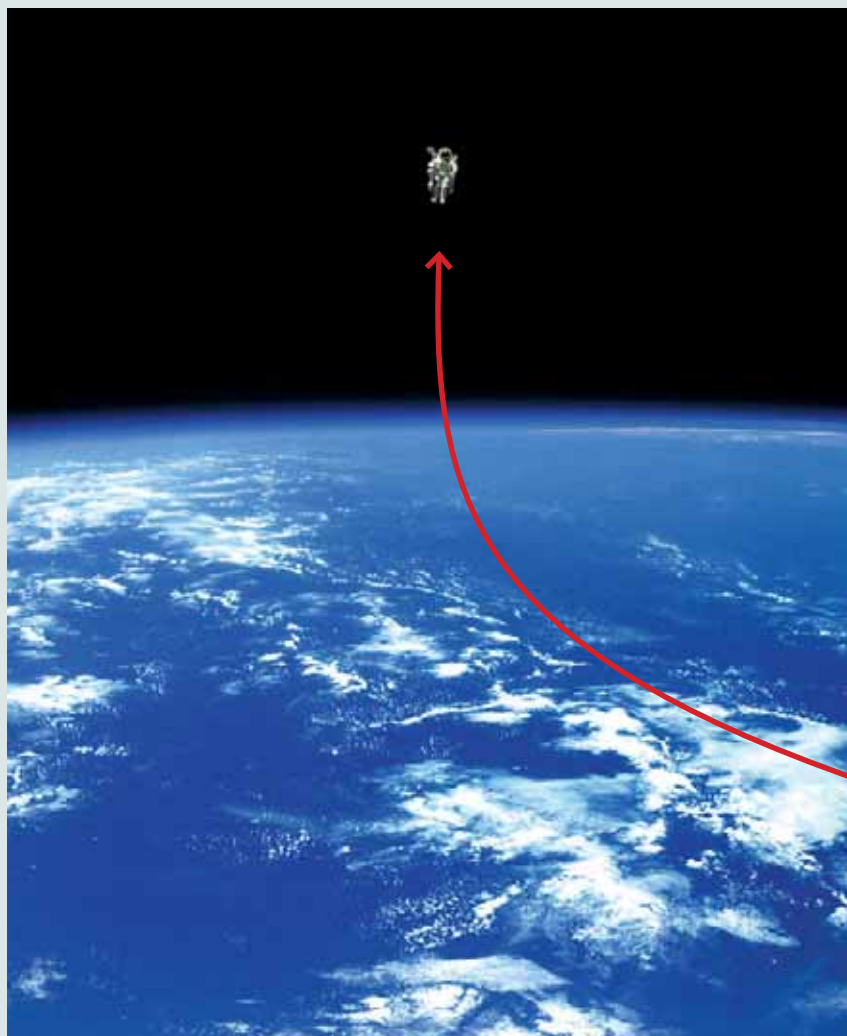
Talk about creepy clowns.

If this keeps up they may have to lower the standards at clown boot camp. Yep, at last year's Ringling Bros. Clown College (it's hard to resist the urge to spell everything with a "K," as in Klown Kollege) only 14 out of 531 applicants were selected to attend boot camp (Clown Feet 101? Introductory Prats-falls?) and only 11 of those were hired on to the circus.

At that rate they'll have to retire the VW Beetle. Smart car, maybe?

## ZOOM

# Oscar-worthy picture by NASA



COURTESY NASA

## Gravity images outshine movie

Space drama Gravity was the big winner on Oscar night — now savour the movie's inspiration. NASA has released spectacular real-life space photos that are strikingly reminiscent of the jaw-dropping scenes and panoramas from the movie. The space agency tweeted the set of archive images under #RealGravity. **METRO**

### Astronaut says

**"I told (Sandra Bullock) that I had long hair, and if you pulled a hair out and pushed it against something, you could move yourself across the space station. That's how little force it takes."**

NASA Expedition 26 astronaut Cady Coleman, explaining to Gravity star Sandra Bullock what life is like in micro gravity.

## Art imitates life

In this 1984 image that showcases the chilling yet beautiful isolation of space, NASA astronaut Bruce McCandless II was photographed further away from his spaceship than any other astronaut in history. He was able to do so thanks to a nitrogen jet-propelled backpack. He was 98 metres from the Challenger orbiter. **METRO**

### Clickbait



**ANDREW FIFIELD**  
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

**Despite the best efforts of a certain lamentable patent troll, podcasting is still going strong and the diversity of presentations, subjects and gimmicks becomes more diverse by the day. Here are three can't-miss subscriptions on iTunes.**



Ron Sexsmith GETTY IMAGES

### Sodajerker:

A British songwriting team turns their love of music into an excuse to talk songwriting with some of their heroes. Nick Lowe, Johnny Marr, Rufus Wainwright and Ron Sexsmith are just a few of the many to sit down to talk about their lives, their feuds and, of course, their songs.

### Welcome To Night Vale:

We've already mentioned the wonderfully weird premise of a community radio station broadcasting from a small town besieged by supernatural events and the machinations of mysterious, all-powerful figures. However, I still meet people who have never heard of it — even though they have a perfectly good Internet connection. Absurd.

### IRL Talk:

Formerly known as Geek Friday, the new name manages to hang onto the Internet jargon while not scaring away those too delicate to handle being called a \*spit\* geek. But the material remains the same — witty talk about whatever foolishness or tech is hot this week, alongside evergreen topics like the loathsomeness of trolls or the great butlers of pop culture history.

### Comments

**RE: Proper Spelling Is Sexy, says Metro's Jessica Napier, published March 4**

there is nothing wrong with "donut". there's nothing wrong with "text-speak", you write as if something vaguely horrible will happen if we

don't quickly fix all these terrible things that are destroying language. there is no evidence anywhere that we're all being hopelessly confused by the lack of a comma. linguists know this perfectly well, but authors like Lynne Truss only fan the flames of this manufactured "grammar police state". ugh.

**Hank posted to metronews.ca**

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# Creator goes WABAC to Rocky & Bullwinkle well

**Improbable history.**  
Time-travelling cult TV cartoon characters get big-screen treatment



**IN FOCUS**  
Richard Crouse  
scene@metronews.ca

Jay Ward may not be a household name, but many of the characters he created are.

As the grand poobah at Jay Ward Productions he produced the animated television shows that gave us Rocky & Bullwinkle, Dudley Do-Right, Peabody and Sherman and George of the Jungle among others.

His cartoons weren't just for kids. The Los Angeles Times wrote, "The good ones, which Ward was a master at creating, worked at two levels: One direct and another wonderfully satiric."

This weekend his characters take over the big screen in Mr. Peabody & Sherman, an animated film starring the voices of Modern Family's Ty Burrell, Stephen Colbert and Leslie Mann.

Mr. Peabody & Sherman isn't the first film based on Ward's characters.

In a 1992 television movie (originally shot in 1988 for theatrical release) SCTV alum Dave Thomas played Boris Badenov, "world's greatest no-goodnik." With his partner-in-crime Natasha Fatale (Sally Kellerman) he leaves



Rocky & Bullwinkle spinoff Mr. Peabody & Sherman stars the voices of Modern Family's Ty Burrell, Stephen Colbert and Leslie Mann. CONTRIBUTED

## Finding their 'wayback'

Based on Peabody's Improbable History segment from the Rocky and Bullwinkle Show, the movie sees the duo use the WABAC machine to ping pong through time, interacting with everyone from Marie Antoinette to King Tut to Leonardo da Vinci and Albert Einstein.

Pottsylvania for the United States to retrieve a microchip. TV Guide said, "as a

90-minute feature film, it's at least 80 minutes too long," but it's worth a gander to see one of the rare live action performances of June Foray, the original voice of Rocky.

Brendan Fraser brought two of Ward's characters to life, George of the Jungle and Dudley Do-Right.

George of the Jungle is a riff on Tarzan. He's a boy raised in the jungle by an ape (John Cleese) but who never mastered the art of swinging from tree to tree. Rotten Tomatoes gives it a 56% Fresh Rating, but the film

remains most memorable for the catchy "George, George/ George of the Jungle/ Strong as he can be/ Watch out for that tree," theme song by the Presidents of the United States of America.

Two years later Fraser was back in another Ward inspired movie about a bumbling Canadian Mountie called Dudley Do-Right who "always gets his man."

Co-starring with Sarah Jessica Parker and Alfred Molina, the story saw Dudley track his nemesis, the depraved Snidely Whiplash. Bad

reviews — USA Today called it a "Dead-carcass spinoff of Jay Ward's animated TV favorite" — doomed the movie, but the character lives on as part of an amusement park ride called Dudley Do-Right's Ripsaw Falls at the Islands of Adventure theme park.

Finally, despite a big name cast — Jason Alexander, Rene Russo and John Goodman — The Adventures of Rocky & Bullwinkle bombed at the box office despite Robert De Niro doing a take on his famous "You talkin' to me?" speech from Taxi Driver.

2  
SCENE

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# Broken Bells: Holding on For Life?

## No expiry date.

Superduo pledge to continue making music together indefinitely

As The Shins' James Mercer and highly sought-after producer Danger Mouse, whose real name is Brian Burton, were preparing their second album as Broken Bells, they noticed some new benefits to their increasingly worked-in collaboration.

"It's easier to be blunt," said Mercer with a laugh in Toronto, seated in a hotel conference room next to his bandmate. "(Brian can say): 'I don't like that.' And I'm just like, 'OK. On we go.'"

The duo had travelled north for a pair of shows — Monday in Toronto and Tuesday in Montreal — a little over a month following the release of *After the Disco*.

The band's sophomore effort opened at No. 3 on the Canadian Billboard chart, its highest placement worldwide ("Better taste up here," murmured Mercer when asked to muse on their north-of-the-border success).

True to its title — referencing the post-party comedown — *After the Disco* is a rather down affair.

Where the first record mixed Mercer's winsome whine with eclectic ear-candy arrangements polished to a lavish sheen by Burton, its follow-up varies its mood more judiciously, even as certain tunes (especially the title track) dial the tempo upward.

"We both have that affinity for melancholic music," explained Mercer.

If the sound of the record is slightly different, the pro-



James Mercer, left, and Danger Mouse (a.k.a. Brian Burton) of Broken Bells. SONY MUSIC CANADA

## Quoted

**"We both have that affinity for melancholic music."**

James Mercer, on the mood of *After the Disco*

cess behind it really wasn't.

Again, Mercer went down to L.A. and stayed in Burton's guest room. Together they worked every day at Burton's studio, staying up late into the night penning lyrics together.

Largely, it seems as though the

collaboration is fuelled by their friendship, which has only grown closer since they linked up to work on the first album.

And Burton — who has produced albums for a range of high-profile artists including Norah Jones, Beck, The Black Keys and Cee Lo Green (as the duo Gnarls Barkley) — says Mercer is indeed easier to work with than most.

"This one, there's no politics involved," said Burton, who first gained wide notice for the Beatles/Jay-Z mashup *The Grey Album*.

"There's no watching what you say or

what you do so much. It's just me and James."

Discussions of Burton's personal studio might conjure images of a plush musical retreat — but it was actually much more modest.

"It was like a crappy lawyer's office," said a laughing Mercer. "Small and dingy. ... It was really that sort of innocuous suburban strip mall office type of thing."

"The vocal booth is pretty hilarious," he added. "There's an auto body shop right behind where the vocal booth sits ... (so) you can hear someone grinding the bondo off (a car)."

Mercer, who has worked in isolation through much

## Range life

Mercer's high-pitched vocals have become more and more pliant — check the Bee Gees-indebted *Holding on For Life*, for instance — and he credits the change to working with Burton.

- "I've gotten better, I think, at singing," he said.
- Burton likewise admitted he was sometimes caught off guard by Mercer's range: "I do get surprised every once in a while — 'Where did that come from?' But then after you do that so many times, you're almost not surprised (anymore)."

of his run creating witty, affecting music with The Shins, seems to relish having a partner in Burton.

For his part, Burton also prizes *Broken Bells* as a creative outlet over which he has uncommon control.

Although both artists are extremely busy — Burton is currently helming the upcoming U2 record, but declines to offer any details on the long-awaited album — they're insistent that *Broken Bells* is a going concern.

Burton, especially, has tired of the widely held presumption that this was a collaboration with an expiration date.

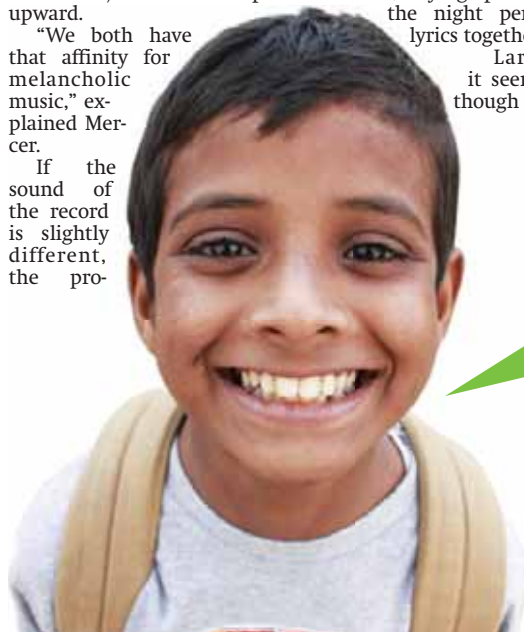
"It seems like we could keep doing this forever, really," Mercer said.

"It's a band," added Burton. "It would be no different than some band coming in on their second album and asking if they're planning on doing it forever — they'd probably look at you like you're kind of nuts."

"We're a band, why wouldn't we?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Cameron Diaz ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Cameron and Sofia finally Spike Jonze of contention

It took more than a decade, but Cameron Diaz has reportedly forgiven director Sofia Coppola for the perceived slight of Anna Faris' ditzy actress character in *Lost in Translation*, suspected by many to be based on Diaz as retaliation for her flirtation with Coppola's then-husband, Spike Jonze. "Sofia and Cameron have had an incredibly difficult relationship since 1999, the year Sofia married Spike. It only got worse when the film came out and it became pretty well-known that part of the movie was based on their real-life feud," a source tells Radar

Online — though Coppola has downplayed the comparison. "There has been a thaw in the relationship between Sofia and Cameron in recent months. They had drinks this summer and cleared the air, possibly even paving the way for a future collaboration."

But the *Lost in Translation* damage isn't completely repaired, as Diaz is apparently still pretty miffed at Faris for her performance. "Cameron still refuses to talk to Anna," the source adds. "And she has never publicly addressed the movie scene in question. It's an off-limits topic."



Lena Dunham

## Lena takes on Archie's girls Betty and Veronica

Lena Dunham is trading her usual clique of *Girls* for two other ladies: Betty and Veronica. Archie comics chief creative officer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa has asked Dunham to write four new stories for the 75-year-old comic book series, and she readily agreed.

"We heard she was an Archie fanatic, and we run in similar circles, so I was able to reach out to her," Aguirre-Sacasa, who was also a writer on *Glee*, tells Comic Book Resources.

His lips are sealed as to

what the new storyline will be, but he did say it is very contemporary and gives the classic comic book a unique spin.

"I was an avid collector of the comic as a child," Dunham says in a statement that was released after the news was announced. "Conventions, first editions that I kept in plastic sleeves, the whole shebang. It has so much cultural significance but also so much personal significance, and to get to play with these beloved characters is a wild creative opportunity."

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

### The Word



## ScarJo will be rocking the cradle with French fiancé



THE WORD  
Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

Scarlett Johansson, 29, is expecting a baby with her French fiancé, Romain Dauriac, E! News confirmed.

Not much is known about Johansson's baby daddy. Alternate reports have him as a journalist, the head of a creative agency and an advertising director. Whoever he is, he has excellent taste: Johansson showed off her ginormous vintage art

deco engagement ring at the Venice Film Festival in September.

Did ScarJo know she was pregnant when she talked with the *Daily Mail* in December? "I would like to have my own family, that would be nice," she said. "They say it's never the right time and I am sure that's true, but I think you have to plan it like anything else." Looks like that time is now.

But what does the happy news mean for Johansson's next turn as Black Widow in *Avengers: Age of Ultron*? The actress is set to begin work on the sequel to the 2012 hit on April 5 following her promotional tour for *Captain America: the Winter Soldier*, and while Marvel Studios has no comment about adjusting her schedule, an insider says, "They're going to fast-track her scenes."



Zac Efron

## Zac says no, no, no while recent rehabber Selena sips Oscars night away

While Zac Efron may have attended the Academy Awards festivities Sunday night with a sober coach in tow, recent rehab resident Selena Gomez reportedly let loose at the Vanity Fair Oscar party, sources tell Radar Online. The *Spring Breakers* star was "drinking constantly throughout the

entire party when I saw her," a source says. "She was having a grand old time, and towards the tail end she was stumbling in her heels and almost toppled right over." In January, Gomez slipped off to an Arizona rehab facility for a two-week stay, though her rep said it was "not for substance abuse."

## Thicke hopes reunion with Patton pending

Robin Thicke is pulling out all the stops in trying to win back estranged wife Paula Patton. Following a quick trip to Vancouver to try to make things work with Patton, Thicke has been using his live shows as a soapbox to proclaim his love, according to E! News. In Virginia last week, he told the crowd, "Me and my wife separated, but I'm trying to get my girl back" before launching into his hit *Lost Without U*. And this week, while performing in Atlantic City, he added Al Green's classic *Let's Stay Together* to his set list, preceding it with another



Robin Thicke

heartfelt monologue: "Never stop believing and you never stop loving. And even if it is over, make sure you treat each other right. Treat your family right," he told the crowd.

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LIFE

## Finding the magic in Mexico

**Loreto.** This sleepy seaside village is the destination developers forgot — so get there before the hordes do

Efforts to turn the Mexican seaside village of Loreto into a major destination have been going on for years. So far, though, the results have been limited, and that in itself makes it worth visiting.

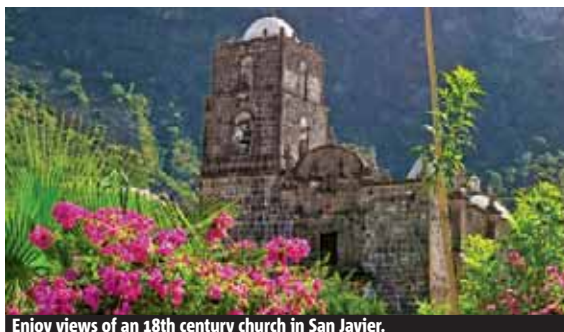
Loreto is already a gem — a historic town nestled between gold-hued mountains and the blue Sea of Cortez. It's known mainly to whale watchers (late winter), sport fishermen (year-round) and snowbirds who drive down from British Columbia.

Loreto was earmarked for tourism development 30 years ago, part of an initiative that also included Cancun, Ixtapa, parts of Oaxaca and Los Cabos. While the others flourished, the development of Loreto faltered. In a renewed effort two years ago, Mexico's tourism agency gave Loreto its "Magic Town" moniker, a label to promote places notable for natural beauty, cultural riches or historical relevance. Still, the international airport here welcomed only about 40,000 tourists last year, compared to the million or so who flew to Los Cabos, 480 kilometres to the south.

And there are no cruise ships. Instead, there is the Loreto Bay National Marine Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site made up of five islands access-



Loreto's new promenade makes for a pleasurable waterfront stroll. PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Enjoy views of an 18th century church in San Javier.

ible only by boat.

After a 90-minute flight from Los Angeles — the only U.S. gateway at present — you will find a town seemingly frozen by the economic downturn, with half-built hotels and empty storefronts.

You'll also find a bit of "old"

Mexico. There are a fair number of people who speak no English, friendly ex-pats happy to offer suggestions, a scattering of small festivals, a soccer stadium with spirited games, and a local mariachi band that plays in khakis, not costumes. Following are some highlights.

#### History

Loreto became the first Spanish settlement on the Baja California peninsula when Jesuit missionaries established the Mission of Our Lady of Loreto in 1697. The baroque-style church still functions, and is used for weddings. An adjacent Mission Museum highlights not only the religious past, but also the political history, as Loreto served as the regional capital from 1697 to 1777. An 18th-century church popular with pilgrims is located an hour away, high in the Sierra de la Giganta mountains in the hamlet of San Javier. Lunch is available at a restaurant in the village, which only got full-time electricity in 2012.

#### Waterfront

A new, multimillion-dollar

#### Dining

- **Canipole.** A spot that has no menu, no roof and an open kitchen, and provides traditional blankets for diners to wear when temperatures fall. The guacamole is made tableside, followed by the daily special, which usually contains divine mole.

promenade makes for a pleasant waterfront stroll and provides for spectacular views east towards the islands. It passes a lighthouse and a small marina, where skippered pangas (small open boats with outboard motors) can be rented for about \$100 for fishing, bird-watching, wildlife-viewing or a lift to the white-sand beach on Coronado Island. Farther down, the sidewalk runs past a city beach, empty during the January chill but for the permanent thatched-roof palapas that provide relief from the sun.

#### Beaches

The best beaches are a short drive from Loreto, but the roads are good and the travel easy. Thirty kilometres south is the community of Ensenada Blanca, which undoubtedly has the most spectacular views of the marine park. You can access the beach through a time-share property, the Villa Del Palmar. It sells a visitor pass for \$65 US per person, which includes unlimited food and drinks, and use of the pools and beach from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Your travel questions answered

**What's the deal?**  
Metro's globe-trotting columnist offers advice on common quandaries



**ON THE MOVE**  
Loren Christie  
life@metronews.ca

This week I'm answering some reader questions about travel.

## Heading to Europe this summer. Where can I get the best bang for my buck?

According to Hotels.com's Hotel Price Index, which pinpoints cities where you can find affordable hotel rooms, you should be looking at capitals that all start with the letter B for the best value: think Brussels, Berlin and Budapest. Lisbon also makes the under \$200-per-night cut. Additionally, the Portuguese capital offers great restaurant food at reasonable prices.

## Can I get a prescription filled abroad?



Want to do Europe on the cheap? The cities that start with B — like Budapest — have the best hotel deals. iSTOCK

Pharmaceutical regulations are different in each country, so getting a supply of medicine on foreign soil isn't simple. Ensure the pills you are looking for are legal in your host country and know the generic name and dosage for the medication. Find an accredited,

English-speaking physician through the local Canadian consulate or the International Association for Medical Assistance to Travellers (iamat.org).

Doctors, who are members, will often make house calls to hotels. Be sure to fill the prescription at a phar-

macy recommended by that doctor or attached to a clinic or hospital, as counterfeit drugs have become increasingly common abroad.

## Should you tip hotel room attendants?

Absolutely, they're often

forgotten. I like to leave \$2 to \$5 per day, depending on extra touches provided, on the bed with a note of thanks. If you prefer to leave one tip at the end of a longer stay, leave an envelope at the front desk. Note your name and room number and dates of stay and ask to have it divided among all the staff who serviced your room.

## Any tips on avoiding lost luggage?

When booking your trip, try a direct flight. If it's not possible, ensure you have ample time between flights for your bags to be transferred.

Book your trip on the same airline so if a bag is lost you are dealing with one airline versus two that may try and push the blame onto each other. Label your baggage with your name and contact information including cellphone number. For security reasons, use your work address, not your home address, and put labels on the inside and outside of your luggage in case the tags get ripped off.

## Bucket list



## The Himalayas

This summer, head for the hills — you won't find anything more achingly beautiful than Northern India. Always a top spot for committed backpackers and mountaineers, this remote region welcomes the regular traveller via the inventive Shakti Village Experiences. These adventures offer private tours through a paradise of pristine nature. There is rafting, camping, camel riding and cooking classes, along with hikes to villages and temples. You stay in a traditional Himalayan home with a porter, chef and guides who keep things safe and comfortable. It is off the beaten track, but with niceties you wouldn't expect at 10,000 feet above sea level. Visit shaktihimalaya.com. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

## Deal



## Eurostar discounts

Until April 2, Rail Europe is giving 20 per cent off select high-speed Eurostar train tickets between London and Paris or Brussels. Those who book also get 10 per cent off London and Paris city passes, which are good for discounted tours, theatre tickets and restaurants, and — most important — for jumping to the head of the line at some sight-seeing sites. Visit rail europe.ca.

**DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

## Trend



## The Poshtel

Backpackers in Britain have never had it so good — with the introduction of the posh hostel — or poshtel. The U.K.'s Youth Hostel Association has spent more than \$40 million on renovations to key hostels in Yorkshire, Norfolk, Kent and several other districts. Luxe perks now include things like en-suite bathrooms, bridal suites and on-site art galleries. Visit yha.org.uk.

**DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

## How-to



## Mind your money

1. Always travel with a small amount of the currency of the country you're visiting. (What if there's no bank machine at the airport or the exchange kiosk is closed?) 2. Tell both the bank and your credit card company where and when you're going. 3. Take leftover cash home and start a currency kit, using an accordion folder, so you'll have money at the ready for next time. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

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# Surf parks are making waves

**Travel trend.** Artificial waves can make surfing more friendly for the masses, but will it corrupt a sport that's at one with nature?

Some of surfing's biggest names aren't just catching waves. They're also talking about making them.

Surf parks — massive pools with repeating, artificial waves — are the latest buzzword in the surf community, as everyone from top athletes to retailers look for ways to expand the sport, boost sales and create a standardized way to train that could help surfing earn an Olympic pedigree.

"Mother Nature stipulates that surfing only can occur where waves can be born. When man takes his hand to forming the waves, it unlocks the potential of surfing anywhere. And that is the most powerful thing," said Doug



Professional surfer Gabriel Medina of Brazil, back, rides the machine-made wave at WaveHouse San Diego.  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Quoted

**"The problem is, surf culture is about so much more than just riding a wave. It is about having a genuine respect and connection with the ocean."**

Surfer and blogger Zac Heisey addressing the debate on his blog, In the Name of Surf

Palladini, president of the Surf Industry Manufacturers Association.

Last November, dozens of industry leaders, surfers and

investors met in Laguna Beach in Southern California for the first annual Surf Park Summit to spark interest in a business proposition that could breathe life into a sport that struggled during the recession.

About 50 per cent of independent mom-and-pop surf retailers — the heart and soul of surf culture — shut down

worldwide during the recession and those that survived face an increasingly saturated market that is limited by geography.

Enter the dream surf park, a two-acre wave pool capable of generating anything from tiny beginner ripples to 10-foot barrels every minute, with every wave the same. Customers would pay by the number of waves to learn the sport or refine their technique and learn new tricks.

The prospect has surf board manufacturers and apparel retailers salivating at the thought of new markets for surf gear and clothing in land-locked places like Kansas or Nebraska. But parks would also be prime real estate for sponsored surfing competitions that would draw both eyeballs and dollars.

There are tantalizing what-ifs: A national surfing league, much like the NBA, with feeder teams and city affiliations. Live, televised surfing competitions staged with predictable waves in a massive surf arena.

Some even believe surf parks could propel the sport

into the Olympics, a dream that has so far proven elusive.

"Without man-made waves, there will not be Olympic surfing," said Fernando Aguerre, president of the International Surfing Association. "It's the ultimate wave-sharing that you can imagine."

Detractors, however, worry that in the rush to surf parks, the sport will lose its soul.

Betting on artificial waves, they say, will sanitize and commercialize a pastime the most passionate surfers describe as a solitary, rugged pursuit where athletes and nature commune. They say the sport will lose sight of its culture and history if the next generation learns to rip on chlorinated water.

"The problem is, surf culture is about so much more than just riding a wave. It is about having a genuine respect and connection with the ocean," said Zac Heisey, a surfer and freelance writer who addressed the debate on his blog, In the Name of Surf.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Wuxi, China

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# The ABCs of nabbing some 1,2,3s: money in your post-secondary pocket

## Find your financing.

You need brains for your campus endeavours, but you also need some cash

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Everyone knows that school is expensive, which is why there are number of different forms of financial assistance available to students at all levels.

You may not think there's a funding package out there for you, but chances are a little research will show you otherwise.

It can take a bit of digging to find scholarships or grants you're eligible for, but it's a small price to pay for the chance to score some free cash.

## Scholarships, bursaries and grants

Scholarships, bursaries and grants are three of the most common application-based sources of funding available to students.

Although all three are monetary awards given to students to help cover education-related expenses, they are usually disbursed according to different criteria.

Scholarships are generally based on merit, bursaries are typically based on fi-



Cast your net wide and don't be afraid to shout your need for a little monetary help to the world. COLOURBOX

financial need and grants are most often awarded for a specific project or program.

### How to apply

To find out which awards are available to you, talk to your school's registrar or main administrative office. They should either have information about student awards or be able to direct you to the department that does.

Many schools also host a student award information session at the beginning of the school year to tell stu-

dents about financial aid offered by the university or college — equip yourself with a pen and notepad and get there early, as seats tend to fill up fast.

After you've checked with your school, do some research online to find out about awards offered by the government, foundations and corporations.

## Work-study programs

Many schools offer co-op or work-study programs to

give students a chance to gain hands-on experience in their chosen field before they graduate.

### How to apply

Check with your department to make sure you're eligible for the program, then ask if it's OK for you to take a paid position and still get course credit.

Once you've got the go-ahead, start contacting potential employers to find out about current opportunities or try talking to students who've already

### Be proactive

Once you know what scholarship, bursary and grant opportunities exist, make a list of which ones you plan to apply for and what each application requires. You'll usually need to fill out some kind of form and provide transcripts, letters of reference and possibly an application letter or essay.

- Jot down the deadlines for each application in a calendar or planner and plan ahead to make sure you submit your applications on time — the competition can be pretty fierce and a late application will most likely mean you won't be considered.

program, consider applying for an internship or apprenticeship on your own. This is a great way to get relevant work experience in your field and it can provide a (modest) income to help you pay for school.

### How to apply

Look for companies or organizations in your area that are connected to your program of study.

Contact the manager or human resources department to express your interest in the work they do and ask if they have any need for an extra set of hands in the coming months.

Be sure to emphasize that you're passionate about what you're studying and you're hoping to learn more about the career you're pursuing by working "in the field."

If you're still struggling to pay for school, consider taking on a part-time job to help you cover your costs. It can feel overwhelming to see your tuition, textbook and living costs add up as you work towards completing a post-secondary program, but there is help out there.

Spend some time doing your research to learn about the funding that's available — you'll have to invest at least a few hours in each award or position you apply for, but it could be well worth your effort in the end.

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done a placement to see if they know of any paid positions you can apply for.

This work experience is a great opportunity to position yourself for future employment with a given office or department — it's a great opportunity to show off your skills and build a professional network on campus. Future positions may also have a higher compensation rate than your work-study program. Be sure to work hard and make your interest known.

## Internships/ apprenticeships

If your school does not offer a work-study or co-op

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# Warm up and get your vitamin C fix

## Beef and Kale Soup.

The superfood is often associated with being turned into crispy chips, but it also works great in main dishes



**DINNER EXPRESS**  
Emily Richards  
food@metronews.ca

## FLASH FOOD



From your fridge  
to your table in  
30 minutes or less

Kale is a great source of vitamin C and folate, so a little packs a punch.

I love cooking with kale and especially adding it to soups and pastas. Try adding chopped kale to your next batch of any of homemade soups for some added nutrients and flavour.

In this soup, the combina-

### Ingredients

- 1 tsp (5 ml) canola oil
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each ground cumin and coriander
- 4 cups (1 l) beef broth
- 2 cups (500 ml) lightly packed finely shredded kale
- 1 strip loin grilling steak (about 8 oz/250 g)
- 1 can (19 oz/540 ml) red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper



This recipe makes three to four servings. EMILY RICHARDS

tion with the beef is perfect and subtle. It makes a hearty soup perfect for a cold winter's night.

If you let the soup cook longer, the kale continues to soften and cook flavour right into the soup. Add a dash of hot pepper sauce at the table for those who may want to add some extra

heat to the soup.

1. Heat oil in a pot over medium heat and cook onion, garlic, cumin and coriander for about 8 minutes or until softened and beginning to turn golden. Add stock and bring to boil. Add kale and cook, stirring occasionally for 5 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, trim any fat from steak and discard. Slice steak into thin strips and cut strips in half crosswise. Add to soup along with beans and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally for about 10 minutes or until kale is tender and steak is slightly pink inside.

### Cooking tips

- You can use two boneless, skinless chicken breasts for the beef (sliced and cooked until no longer pink inside). You can also use spinach or Swiss chard for the kale.
- What do you do with leftover kale? Kale chips! They're crispy, low calorie, full of great nutrition, and an easy way to increase your intake of micronutrients.

**START TO FINISH**  
ABOUT 25 MINUTES

# You don't have to be so kneady

1. Heat the oven to 350 F.

2. Place walnuts in shallow baking dish, then place in oven on the middle shelf to toast 10 to 12 minutes. Set aside to cool.

3. Once nuts cool, in bowl stir with both flours, salt, yeast and rosemary. Add water and stir briefly with wooden spoon, just until dough is barely mixed, about 30 seconds. The dough should be wet and tacky. If it is not, add 1 to 2 tablespoons more water. Cover bowl and let it rise at room temperature for 12 to 18 hours, or until it is more than double in bulk.

4. After the dough has risen, generously sprinkle a work surface with flour and gently, with the help of a plastic bench scraper, scoop out the dough onto the counter.

5. Working very quickly, with floured hands, fold dough inward to centre on all sides to form seam. Turn dough over to form a round with the seam on the bottom. Generously sprinkle a clean kitchen towel with flour. Lay the towel flat on the counter and set the dough on top, seam down. Sprinkle the top of the dough lightly with flour and loosely fold the ends

of towel over the dough.

6. Let dough rise in a warm place for 1 to 2 hours, or until almost doubled in bulk. You will know it is ready when you poke the dough and it holds your imprint. If the dough bounces back, it is not ready.

7. About 30 minutes before you think dough is ready, heat oven to 475 F. Put a rack in the lower third of the oven, and place a covered 4 1/2- to 5 1/2-quart casserole dish in the oven to heat.

8. When the dough has risen, carefully remove the casserole

dish from the oven and remove the lid. With the aid of the tea towel, flip the dough gently, seam side up, into the casserole, put the lid on the casserole and return it to the oven. Bake for 30 minutes. Carefully remove the lid and bake until the bread has browned nicely, another 15 to 30 minutes.

9. Remove the casserole dish from the oven and use a spatula or dish towel to carefully transfer the bread to a rack to cool completely before slicing.  
**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ SARA MOULTON**  
**AUTHOR OF SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.**



This No-Knead Walnut-Rosemary Bread recipe makes one loaf of bread.  
MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (50 g) coarsely chopped walnuts
- 2 cups (266 g) bread flour
- 1 cup (133 g) whole-wheat flour
- 1 1/4 tsp (8 g) table salt
- 3/4 tsp (2 g) instant or rapid-rise yeast
- 2 tbsp (6 g) chopped rosemary
- 1 1/3 cups (350 g) cool water (55 F to 65 F)
- Additional flour, wheat bran or cornmeal, for dusting



Roberto Luongo

## Canucks throw star goalie for a Luop

For a while, Roberto Luongo was the starting goaltender for the Vancouver Canucks, and then at certain points one of their goaltenders.

By Tuesday afternoon as he settled down for a pre-game nap, Luongo seemed satisfied to be starting a game for the Canucks. Then he got the call from general manager Mike Gillis that a deal was worked out to send him to the Florida Panthers.

"Just when I was starting to let my guard down a little bit, what do you know, the trade happens," Luongo told reporters in Arizona. "So that's the way it goes."

The way it went was a stunning end to Luongo's roller-coaster tenure in Vancouver that included a trip to the Stanley Cup final, a demotion behind Cory Schneider, demands to trade him and finally a seat on the bench for the Heritage Classic he waited so long to start in. Florida gets the final eight seasons of Luongo's \$64-million US, 12-year contract along with ECHL forward Steve Anthony, and the Canucks get young goalie Jacob Markstrom and forward Shawn Matthias.

"Am I happy about resolution of the situation? Yes, I am," Gillis said on a conference call Tuesday night. "These are tough decisions. It takes a lot of courage to trade a player like Roberto Luongo and insert young players into your lineup, but we felt strongly that this was the right time frame to think that way, and this was the first opportunity to act on it." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Hemsky pots pair of goals in Oilers' win

**NHL.** Subject of trade talk leads the way in victory over Senators

Ales Hemsky scored a pair of goals as the Edmonton Oilers snapped a three-game losing streak with a 3-2 victory over the Ottawa Senators on Tuesday night.

Jordan Eberle also scored and Taylor Hall had a pair of assists for the Oilers (21-34-8), who remain in second-last place in the NHL despite a 6-2-2 record in their last 10 games.

Jason Spezza and Erik Karlsson responded for the Senators (27-24-11), who have lost three of their last four games in the midst of trying to move up into a playoff spot.

In what may have been his last game in Edmonton after 11 seasons, Hemsky tallied his first goal of the night after cutting in on net and undressing Ottawa goalie Craig Anderson with a backhand deke. The goal tied the game 1-1 at 14:30 in the first period.

Hemsky, the subject of persistent trade-deadline rumours, wasn't done yet. With 11 minutes left in the middle frame, Sam Gagner hit Hemsky with a drop pass and he picked the corner with a shot for his ninth of the season while Hall screened Anderson in front of the net.

Edmonton made it 3-1 early in the third period as a Boyd Gordon shot deflected to Eberle at the side of the net and he had an easy tap-in for



Oilers goalie Ben Scrivens stops a shot by the Senators' Mika Zibanejad as Justin Schultz and Jeff Petry help defend at Rexall Place on Tuesday night. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

### On Tuesday

3

Oilers

2

Senators

### On the move

- Minnesota acquired goaltender Ilya Bryzgalov from Edmonton in exchange for a fourth-round draft pick. Edmonton then traded for netminder Viktor Fasth from Anaheim for a fifth-round pick this year and a third-round selection in the 2015 draft.
- Washington acquired forward Dustin Penner from Anaheim for a fourth-round pick in this year's draft.
- The New York Islanders sent defenceman Andrew MacDonald to Philadelphia for a pair of draft picks and minor-league centre Matt Mangene.
- Phoenix made a deal with Washington. Phoenix got forwards Martin Erat and John Mitchell, while forward Chris Brown, defenceman Rostislav Klesla and a fourth-round selection in the 2015 draft went the other way.

his 20th of the season.

The Senators made it a one-goal game with just under three minutes left to play. Karlsson walked around a pair of defenders and slipped a shot under Scrivens' arm. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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Eligible customers include current owners/lessees of a Dodge or Ram pickup truck or a Dodge or Ram commercial van. The vehicle must have been owned/leased by the eligible customer and registered in their name on or before February 1, 2014. Proof of ownership/lease agreement will be required. Additional eligible customers include licensed tradesmen whose working vehicles were Skilled Trade certification. Some conditions apply. Your manufacturer's complete terms. \$4,295 purchase financing for up to 36 months available on the new 2014 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 model through Royal Bank Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Example: 2014 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 with a Purchase Price of \$27,495 (including applicable Consumer Cash discounts) financed at 4.29% per annum for 36 months with \$0 down payment results in monthly payments of \$765.00. 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# Volvo's new V60: safe and stylish



PHOTOS: WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

## 2015 Volvo V60

- **Type.** Four-door, front-/all-wheel-drive wagon
- **Engines (hp).** 2.0-litre DOHC I4, TC (240); 2.5-litre DOHC I5, TC (250); 3.0-litre DOHC I6, TC (325-345)
- **Transmissions.** Eight (2.0) and six-speed automatic (std. 2.5, 3.0)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$41,500



## Design

The V60 is an offshoot of the S60 sedan and shares much of its physical traits. However, in back, the V60 presents one of the more attractively sculpted hatchbacks to grace any wagon. In most key measurements, length, width and distance between the front and rear wheels, both sedan and wagon are in a dead heat.

## Engine

Along with a Volvo-measured zero-to-96-km-h (60-mph) time of 6.1 seconds, a major Drive-e bonus will be a fuel-consumption rating that's expected to be significantly lower than the inline five-cylinder's 9.9 l/100 km city and 6.5 highway.

**Review.** Walking the fine line between form and function ... and sometimes crossing it

MALCOLM GUNN  
wheelbasemedia.com

Station wagons have been around for decades, but perhaps no other brand is more identified with this form of transportation than Volvo. That's what makes the 2015 V60 Sportswagon such an important addition to the Sweden-based (and Geely of China-owned) fleet.

In many respects the V60 represents a return to Volvo's roots. There hasn't been a front-wheel-drive carryall in the brand's North American lineup since the V70 was retired after the 2010 model year. That left just the all-wheel-drive XC70, with its hiked-up suspension and blacked-out trim, as the company's wagon flag-bearer.

In cargo capacity the V60

comes up a bit shorter than you would think when compared to the old V70. That's the cost of style, apparently.

The elegant interior features a unique "waterfall" control panel that flows downward from the dashboard onto the floor console. There's storage space behind the flat panel, which is pretty standard for Volvo. The rest of the cabin displays considerable premium content with the optional well-bolstered seats being precisely what you would expect in a car that uses the Sportswagon tag.

There's also plenty of sporting content to be found under the hood. The V60 and S60 will be the first Volvos to reach North America with a brand new engine. The turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder "Drive-E" that will be available starting this summer generates 240 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque.

All of Volvo's powerplants will eventually be based off the Drive-E, but for the time being buyers can also select the turbocharged 2.5-litre five-cylinder

in the T5 AWD that makes 250 horsepower and 266 pound-feet of torque. Also offered is the turbocharged 3.0-litre six-cylinder in the AWD R-Design that produces 325 horsepower and 354 pound-feet of torque.

For a very select group of V60/S60 buyers, the performance-focused limited-edition Polestar ups the 3.0's output to 345 horsepower and 369 pound-feet. An eight-speed automatic transmission connects to the 2.0, while a six-speed automatic handles the cog-swapping chores for the five- and six-cylinder models.

Definitely helping the fuel economy in the city is technology that stops the engine when the V60 is briefly stationary then automatically restarts it when the brake pedal is released.

Volvo will also eventually offer a turbo-diesel and a plug-in hybrid version of the V60. Base V60 models, regardless of power choice, arrive with climate control, heated front seats, power moonroof and a power parking brake.

The remaining trim levels — Premier, Premier Plus and Platinum — add notable features such as a rear park assist camera, power-retractable outside mirrors, navigation system and premium audio. The top-Swede T6 R-Design comes with leather-covered sport seats, keyless start and 18-inch alloys. Of course safety-conscious Volvo offers an impressive selection of advanced crash-avoidance aids.

Notably, there's collision warning with pedestrian and cyclist detection as well as a Road Side Information Camera that projects speed-limit and no-passing signs onto the driver information screen. The car can warn the driver if the speed limit is exceeded.

It's that sort of unique safety gear that over the years has earned Volvo beloved-brand status. Ultimately, however, it's the V60 Sportswagon's sleek lines, inviting interior accouterments and potent, yet new-age thrift-conscious powertrains that will help propel more youthful buyers into the Volvo fold.

## Compare



**1** BMW 328i xDrive  
Base price: \$50,000



**2** Cadillac CTS  
Base price: \$49,900



**3** Subaru Outback Limited  
Base price: \$38,400

# 5 DRIVE



# Parts department

WHEELBASE MEDIA

## What if? Hey, why not!

Between 1969 and 2002, the Pontiac Firebird was part of General Motors' two-model "pony car" lineup that also included the Chevrolet Camaro. The Pontiac brand is long gone, but that hasn't stopped Projx Auto of Detroit, Mich., from manufacturing its ZTA Appearance Package. The company's kit allows any current-generation Camaro owner to convert their car into a modern-day Firebird Trans Am ... or at least the way it might have looked if Pontiac was still around. The basic package includes new front and rear bumper assemblies, grille, tail lamps, rear spoiler and engine-mounted "shaker" hood scoop. Optional is the iconic Trans Am hood decal and fully functional shaker. Prices start at US \$4,950. Check out the Trans Am Appearance Package at [ztafirebird.com](http://ztafirebird.com).



## Stuck for traction



There are a lot of winter-traction devices out there that largely sit unused in the back of your vehicle for that time when you're stuck. It might never come, but if you want to get out without tying up a lot of money, we have a tip. The Tread Ahead is a simple-to-use device designed to provide an equal amount of grip on both sides so it remains in place while you extricate your vehicle from ice and snow. Tread Ahead works by wedging the 34-centimetre-long device beneath the tire, then slowly driving out of trouble. As a bonus, you can also use Tread Ahead as an emergency ice scraper. You can see the product in action on YouTube. It sells for \$15-\$20 US on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [ebay.com](http://ebay.com).

## Automotive metal works

Josh Welton refers to himself as a welder, but he's actually an accomplished sculptor whose primary medium is metal. Among his many subjects are a number of motorcycle and automotive themes, the latter including hotrods and classic cars. Some of his pieces are exaggerated caricatures that appear to have been inspired by the late Ed "Big Daddy" Roth's Rat Fink series, while others are somewhat tamer and more to scale. All are really cool and would be an excellent addition to any car buff's art collection. Prices vary depending on the subject and the amount of work involved, but generally range between \$500 and \$1,000 US. Check out Welton's gallery at [browndogwelding.com](http://browndogwelding.com).



## Back-and-knee relief

The people at BedRug, makers of popular pickup bed liners on the market, have a really simple solution for working beneath your vehicle anytime and anywhere. The foldable 120-by-60-centimetre TrackMat resists stains, oil and other chemicals, while providing plenty of cushioned comfort for your knees and back. The product is also made with the same kind of material used in life jackets, so it will repel water and mildew. When not in use, TrackMat folds in half for easy storage. You can get the full details, including a full list of retail outlets, at [bedrug.com](http://bedrug.com). You can also purchase TrackMat for \$30 US through a number of online resellers, including [autoanything.com](http://autoanything.com).



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\*Limited time finance purchase offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Base MSRP of \$16,385 for a new and unregistered 2014 Jetta 2.0L base model with 5-speed manual transmission, including \$1,395 freight and PDI, financed at 2.9% APR for 84 months equals 182 bi-weekly payments of \$84. \$1,764 down payment. Cost of borrowing is \$1,467 for a total obligation of \$17,052. PPSSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. \*\*\$500 available on cash purchase, finance or lease (through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit) of a new and unregistered 2014 Jetta 2.0L base model, and up to \$1,000 on a new and unregistered 2014 Jetta 1.4L Hybrid / 2.0L GLI. Discount varies by model. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end March 31, 2014 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Model shown: 2014 Jetta 1.8L Highline, \$24,490. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown. Visit [vw.ca](http://vw.ca) or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design", "Jetta" and "Autobahn for All" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2014 Volkswagen Canada.





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## Automakers to take bite of Apple's new system



Volvo's new iPhone-friendly dash. COURTESY OF VOLVO

**CarPlay.** Technology giant's attempt to infiltrate the inside of your vehicle is impressive and 'kind of a big deal'



**AUTO PILOT**  
Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

"I don't know how to put this, but I'm kind of a big deal."

Ron Burgundy said that in Anchorman, but you get the feeling Apple might say that too, though not too loudly, at this week's auto show in Geneva, as several show vehicles from Volvo, Ferrari and Mercedes-Benz are set to debut and demonstrate Apple's CarPlay.

CarPlay is Apple's way of infiltrating its operating system (OS) into the nerve centre of the automobile — it will allow you to do everything you could do with your iPhone while driving, but through the vehicle's built-in infotainment display.

Net result: the vehicle's display will feature recognizable Apple icons for music, phone, messages, navigation, etc. Volvo is introducing its new user interface on a concept displayed at Geneva, but the first production Volvo to

feature it will be the all-new Volvo XC90 coming later this year — touted as the first vehicle to offer CarPlay.

According to Apple's website, Hyundai, Jaguar and Honda will join Volvo, Ferrari and Mercedes-Benz as the first six automakers to offer upcoming 2014 vehicles with CarPlay.

A whole bunch of other automakers also committed to roll out CarPlay, but a little further down the pike.

Apple says CarPlay can be operated with whatever controls the vehicle is equipped with, be they touch-screen, voice, rotary, or even a "joy stick" system like BMW's infamous iDrive.

No doubt that all the car makers, and the tech companies with a vested interest like Google and Apple, are trying to give us all this great stuff with the easiest and safest interfaces possible, but the possibility of increased driver distraction is something that will always doggedly follow the technology.

There is just so much of it. And there's the catch 22 of when it's easier to use and blazingly beautiful, you just end up using it more. Like downing a bucket of low-cal ice-cream — good it's low-cal, but overall more bad because it's a whole bucket.

Reports are circulating that the U.S. vehicle trans-

portation safety agency, NHTSA, is worried about the increasing number of Americans getting killed in crashes involving a distracted driver, and is considering a ban on certain kinds of complex infotainment controls. "Joy stick" systems, for example, require an extra level of eye scanning, because the control device is not directly beside the display.

NHTSA may also have a concern with touch screens — they are notorious for delays and false entrees, leaving drivers wondering — and distracted — about if they actually achieved their desired selection.

"There is a reason jet cockpits don't have touch screens," said Greg Horn, who follows industry trends for Mitchell, a leading supplier of tools and training programs for the auto industry.

"You have this tactile switch. You are instantaneously aware that you have pushed that button, and the function is complete."

Horn also noted that Lincoln's new MKC is actually backing away from touch screens a bit, by having a few more rotary knobs than the previous version of Lincoln MyTouch.

All said, I am looking forward to CarPlay, and I will try to not lose my head or get too distracted when I inevitably encounter Apple's spinning pinwheel of death.

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# The silver lining on the tasteless '80s cloud

**Auto know.** OK, so we all know the '80s was terrible for many things like bands, hairdos and cars but here's some machines that made the cringing worthwhile

**TODD BURLAGE**  
wheelbasemedia.com

The 1980s will never be mistaken as the golden years of automotive ingenuity. Or music. Or hair.

From the gull-wing doors of the DeLorean to the rollover-ready Suzuki Samurai to the boxy Yugo or anything at all made by Renault, epic vehicle failures marked one of the more forgettable periods in transportation history. But for all the short-lived Ford Granadas, Cadillac Cimarrons and Triumph Acclaims of the time, there were a handful of key vehicles that made an immediate and lasting impact on the automotive industry.

So let's take a trip back 25 years and celebrate a few vehicles that stood the test of time and changed the course of vehicular demand.

## Mazda MX-5 (Miata)

It's hard to believe that a quarter century has passed since this little two-seater first hit North American roadways and put "fun" squarely back on the priority list for new-car buyers. This Japanese creation leaned on its good looks and dependability to become a major player in the roadster segment occupied at the time by unreliable and flimsy British and Italian cars (MG and Fiat). And while the Miata's popularity has varied with the times, this classic is still approaching nearly one million in total sales since its debut for 1989. The brand is the best-selling two-seat sports car in North American history. Dealers were unable to keep up with demand for this relatively inexpensive roadster that also featured the unmatched Japanese reliability of the time. The Miata made such an indelible impact on the automotive industry, it appeared 11 times on Car and Driver magazine's 10 Best list, and Sports Car International named it the best sports car of the 1990s and one of the 10 best of all time.

## Ford hit Jackpot

With more than eight million Tauruses built since its launch in 1986, Ford hit a grand slam with this comfortable, stylish and affordable sedan that fit almost every lifestyle and budget.

## Lexus LS

Launched 25 years ago to compete in a luxury sedan market dominated by European and American brands, the LS quickly made a name for itself and parent company Toyota. Within five years of its launch in 1989, the LS helped Lexus overtake rivals BMW and Mercedes-Benz in overall U.S. sales and by 2000 it had even jumped Cadillac as the luxury-sedan sales leader. The affordable LS 400 made such an impact in North American showrooms, Mercedes-Benz actually dropped the price of its luxury models by about 10 per cent to compete. Multiple redesigns and four generations later, the Lexus LS continues to hold a prominent place in luxury markets worldwide.

## Acura NSX

The launch of the NSX was a gutsy endeavor by Acura because this sportscar set its sights on the Ferrari and Porsche empires, which is a battleground where no other vehicle maker had ever dared go before, especially one from Japan. Conceived in the mid-to-late 1980s and first produced in 1990 for the 1991 model year, the NSX — an acronym for New Sports eXperimental — earned the title of the "everyday supercar" because of a quality and reliability it provided that other exotics of the era did not. With the first-ever all-aluminum production vehicle, the first production use of the "VTEC" variable valve timing system and the first production four channel anti-lock brake system, this Japanese icon raised the bar for sports cars through the 1990s with a stellar ride and handling. The aluminum engine was a 270-horsepower 3.0-litre V6 that revved to an astonishing-for-the-time 8,000 on the tachometer. It pushed the 1,400-kilogram car to 270 km/h. Its innovative construction became an inspiration for future designs, such



The Miata has added many convenience items - an optional power metal folding top, for one - over the years, but it remains a fairly pure sporty machine at a reasonable price.

as the McLaren F1, and, of course Ferrari pulled up its socks. Production of the NSX was put on mothballs for 10 years after being continuously built from 1990 through 2005 with little in the way of noticeable change. But this important nameplate will be resurrected for the 2015 model year with a striking redesign and startling Formula One-derived engine technology.

## Ford Taurus

Billed as the perfect transportation option for any demographic, this wildly popular sedan became one of the most influential vehicles in North America of the last 30 years. With more than eight million Tauruses built since its launch in 1986, Ford hit a grand slam with this comfortable, stylish and affordable sedan that fit almost every lifestyle and budget. Key was its fantastic design that broke away from the square styling that plagued the roads. Popularity peaked from 1992-1996 when the Taurus became the best selling ride in the United States during those five years. The Taurus has undergone many redesigns and updates in its 28 years of near continuous production, the most notable coming in 2008 when Ford moved this sedan from the mid-size to the full-size market. Putting together a list of the worst cars from the late 1980s is pretty easy as the decade is still the butt of many jokes. But it wasn't a total loss as the cars that rose to the top did so with game-changing innovation.



The first Taurus had a ground-breaking shape in an era of vehicles with flat surfaces and jagged corners. ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE



Imagine seeing this in the fall of 1990? All-aluminum construction, 8,000-rpm engine and none of the maintenance issues with Ferrari.



So much for European and North American-dominated luxury. The Lexus LS quickly became a top contender, almost out of thin air.



# The future is now: A car seat with a brain

**Driving Force.** This new pre-adjustment technology is not to be confused with a memory seat and it can all be operated through your smart phone

JILL  
MCINTOSH  
Drive@metronews.ca

One of the keys to safe, comfortable driving is having your seat adjusted properly. While you currently have to do it yourself, it may not be long before your car sets itself to exactly the right position for you, even before you get in.

Automotive seat manufacturer Johnson Controls has developed a system that automatically adjusts the power seat to your size, or to anyone else who is driving the car.

"(It uses) the height of the occupant as the input to automatically adjust the seat motors for optimal positioning," says Deb Wines, director of new technologies for Johnson Controls Automotive Seating.

"Passengers can enter their height via a smart phone, or an on-board camera could be used to determine the occupant's height."

The development is ac-

## Take note

• **Position is paramount.**  
The correct seating position gives you better visibility, reduces fatigue, and helps prevent injury in a crash.

• **See for yourself.**  
Test by putting your wrist on the top of the steering wheel. You should have a slight bend in your elbow, but still be at least 25 cm from the wheel.

• **Different rules up front.**  
Front-seat passengers should sit up straight and never put their feet on the dash, since the airbag can cause severe leg damage in a crash.

tually an algorithm that uses a person's size to determine everything that goes into proper seat adjustment: the distance from the steering wheel, the seat's height, how the cushion is tilted, how far back the seat is reclined, and the position of the head restraint.

It wasn't a simple task, since preliminary research determined it wasn't enough to use leg length to figure out how far back the seat had to be, or torso length to adjust the seat's height. Instead, the de-

velopers found that measuring the body overall gave them the information needed to find exactly the right position for almost all users.

The system differs from a memory seat, which many cars already have.

These power-operated seats store one or more positions after the occupants have made the

adjustments to the seats themselves, and then return to each position when a button is pushed or, in some vehicles, a specific key fob is used to open the car.

On the new automatic system, the seat does the work itself, making all the necessary adjustments after the driver has entered his or her height through a smartphone app, or into the

car's vehicle settings.

And unlike a memory seat, the system can use the smartphone app to adjust itself even before a driver gets into the car for the very first time.

"The pre-adjustment technology can be used by any number of difference occupants using the same vehicle," Wines says. "This is an important distinc-

tion when it comes to fleet vehicles, rentals, (or) car-sharing."

The system is ready for integration into new vehicles, and Johnson Controls is able to provide it worldwide to its automaker customers. "Once we receive a customer order, we expect to see this in vehicles in as little as two years," Wines says.



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## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 - April 20

Today's cosmic set-up is fortunate, but only if you are prepared to get out into the world. You know the saying: It's not so much what you know that matters as who you know.

### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Now is the time to prove yourself. With your ruler Venus moving into the career area of your chart, you will impress people of power with ease — if you make the effort.

### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Venus, planet of emotional and material values, moves in your favour today, making it necessary to think about who and what means the most to you. You know the answer already, but remind yourself.

### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Everything is going so well for you at the moment that you may get a bit suspicious and wonder if it's some kind of cosmic trick. Nothing could be further from the truth. This is a genuine lucky streak, so enjoy.

### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Venus, planet of love, moves into the relationship area of your chart today, so anything of a partnership nature will go well. No matter how busy you may be, take time to remind that one special person how much they mean to you.

### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Remember it's quality, not quantity, that counts. If you keep that point in mind today, everyone will praise you for a job well done. If you try to do too much you'll please no one.

### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Too often in the past you have lacked the confidence to follow through on an idea. Now, you will look and act as if you can't fail. And you won't.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Venus, the planet that helps smooth over difficulties, moves into the domestic area of your chart today. Use its influence to reorder your home life in ways that suit your needs.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You can get through twice as much work in half as much time as you usually do today. But don't spend all your time on everyday chores because this is also an aspect that increases the fun factor.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

This should be a productive day but there is a danger that in your haste to show what you can do, you will take on too many tasks. Focus on the one thing you are great at.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

There is nothing you cannot do. With Venus, planet of harmony, joining Mercury in your sign today doors will open as if by magic and heads will turn as you walk down the street. You're worth watching.

### Pisces

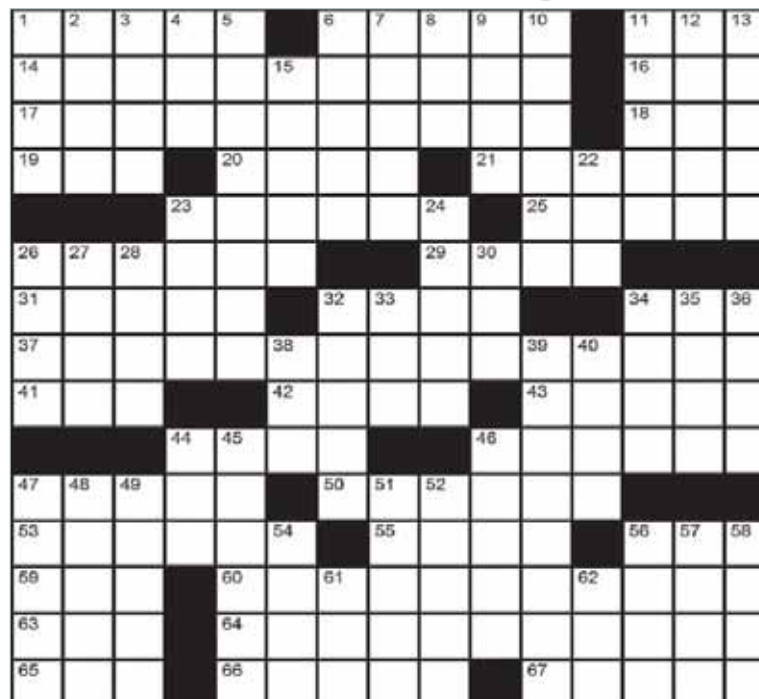
Feb. 20 - March 20

If someone is in trouble today you will ride to their rescue, no questions asked. While it's good of you to be generous with your time, you must be careful about how you use your money. And remember, it is YOUR money. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

1. Note hit by a soprano, \_\_\_
6. Gene Pitney's "Twenty-Four Hours from \_\_\_"
11. Colorado NHL players, to fans
14. Shakespeare comedy: 4 wds.
16. Sass
17. The Pursuit of Happiness song: 3 wds.
18. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.
19. \_\_\_ Z
20. Chess pieces, e.g.
21. Sandra Oh's Ontario birthplace
23. His-and-Her clothing
25. Microwaved
26. Equilibrium
29. Exuberance
31. Rice dish
32. Height: Prefix
34. Court game org.
37. Second Cup, for example: 3 wds.
41. Comic actress Ms. Gasteyer
42. Peace, in Paris
43. "\_\_\_ had time to..." (There was extra time, so...)
44. Dave Clark Five's "Catch \_\_\_ You Can"
46. Ms. Danes
47. Chicago airport
50. Set up
53. St. \_\_\_ Canadian Memorial, in Belgium
55. Middle East country



56. Potsie's portrayer ...his initials-sharers
59. Blood-typing letters
60. Toffee brand in the tartan wrapper
63. "\_\_\_ out!" (Ump's call)
64. Barenaked Ladies singer: 2 wds.
65. Jrs. dads

66. Songstress, Taylor \_\_\_
67. Playwright Eugene O'Neill's daughter's namesakes

### Down

1. Chuckling sounds
2. Help \_\_\_ hand
3. Sandwich sort

4. Brick carrier
5. Saskatchewan town that is home to the 'World's Largest Tomahawk': 2 wds.
6. Inclines
7. Imperial decree
8. Romanian currency
9. Stop \_\_\_
10. Greek goddess
11. Tatshenshini-\_\_\_

- Park, in northwest-ern BC
12. 'V' of CV
13. Buy
15. Actress Ms. Anderson's
22. Fun-rhymer
23. The States fliers, commonly
24. Photocopy
26. Shelter gr.

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers).

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

27. Common noun suffix
28. Racing's Romeo
30. Prune
32. "Have \_\_\_ trip home!"
33. Phi's Greek alphabet follower
34. "Avatar" (2009) species
35. Casket stand
36. Green Gables girl
38. Prefix meaning 'Over'
39. Soapy-tasting-to-some herb
40. Hatful
44. Mr. Geller
45. Appeared
46. Construction site sight
47. "Back Stabbers": 1972 hit by The \_\_\_
48. Journalist/broadcaster, Karina \_\_\_
49. Then: French
51. Camera company
52. "The \_\_\_ has spoken." - Jeff Probst, "Survivor"
54. Zilch
56. PGA part [abbr.]
57. Nelly Furtado's 2000 debut album: '\_\_\_, Nelly!'
58. American SINS equivalents
61. Sob
62. Ear: Prefix

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



## Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: -14°  
MIN: -19°



MAX: -13°  
MIN: -17°



MAX: -10°  
MIN: -22°



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